



AFGHANISTAN REPORT

NO. 43

OCTOBER 1987

**CRISIS & CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM
THE INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES
SECTOR F-5/2, P. O. BOX 1173,
ISLAMABAD-PAKISTAN**

CRISIS AND CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM (CCAT) AFGHANISTAN

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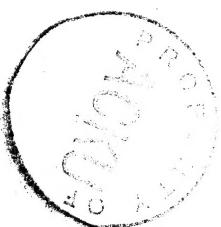
<i>Chairman</i>	.. Kamal Matinuddin
<i>Co-Chairman</i>	.. Ijaz S. Gilani
<i>Project Coordinators</i>	.. Fazal-ur-Rahman Najam Abbas
<i>Associates</i>	.. Mohammad Umar Khan M. Ashraf

1. The Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team comprises of leading academicians, strategists, researchers and policy analysts interested in the study of international relations. The members of this team meet periodically in groups; one team is devoted to the study of the Afghan crisis and conflict. In the light of carefully monitored information each group reviews current developments in its respective conflict area, and offers various policy options for consideration. While the Institute of Strategic Studies provides the forum, coordinates research and publishes the findings of the Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team, it does not necessarily share the views expressed by the team members whose participation in this group is in their individual capacity.

2. The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, collation, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all the parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Afghan, Soviet, and other Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Documentation Centre, Afghan Information Centre, the Afghan Islamic Press, and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are aware of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up in the Mujahideen, as present in regular armies.

— Editor

IJAZ S. GILANI
FAZAL-UR-RAHMAN



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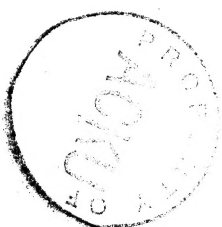
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ACRONYMS

AAP	=	Agency Afghan Press (Mujahideen).
AAPSO	=	Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization.
AAWC	=	All Afghanistan's Women Council.
ADBA	=	Agricultural Development Bank of Afghanistan.
ALA	=	Association of Lawyers of Afghanistan.
APC	=	Armoured Personnel Carrier.
CC	=	Central Committee.
CP	=	Communist Party.
DRA	=	Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.
DYOA	=	Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan.
HIS	=	Haiqat-e-Inqilab-e-Saur ('The Truth of the Saur Revolution'), daily newspaper.
HMV	=	Heavy Military Vehicles.
IHT	=	International Herald Tribune.
ICRC	=	International Committee of the Red Cross.
KHAD	=	State Secret Service.
KNT	=	Kabul New Times.
LOSPA	=	Local Organs of State Power and Administration.
NFF	=	National Fatherland Front.
NVDP	=	Ningarhar Valley Development Project.
PDPA	=	Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan.
POA	=	Pioneers Organization of Afghanistan.
PSFO	=	Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization.
RC	=	Revolutionary Council.
SAFS	=	Soviet Afghan Friendship Society.
TUA	=	Trade Unions of Afghanistan.
UJA	=	Union of Journalists of Afghanistan.
UNESCO	=	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization.
UNGA	=	United Nations General Assembly.
VFA	=	Voice of Free Afghanistan.
VOA	=	Voice of America.
VOG	=	Voice of Germany.
VOIR	=	Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (reportedly based in Iran).
WDS	=	Western Diplomatic Sources.
WHO	=	World Health Organization.
YPO	=	Young Pioneer's Organization.
'Jehad'	=	To strive, struggle, resist, fight against, as an article of Faith.
'Mujahideen'	=	One of the main tenets of Islam.
'Jirga'	=	Those who take part in Jihad against oppression and aggression, as an article of faith.
'Loi Jirga'	=	Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Afghanis'	=	National Assembly of Tribal Elders.
	=	Afghan Currency.

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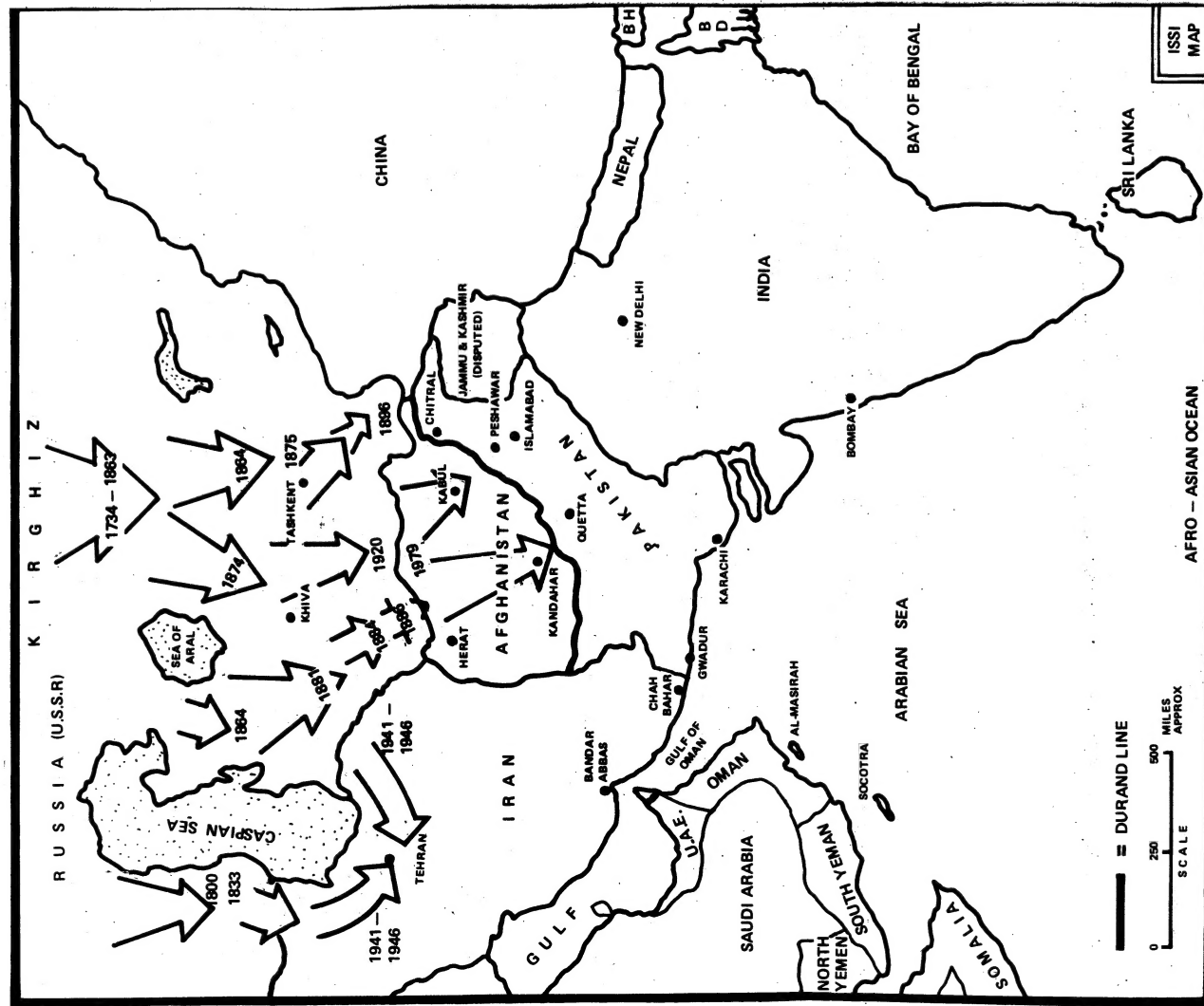
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THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



I.— THE FOURTH AFGHAN WAR

1 — SUMMARY PERSPECTIVE (see map Appendix 7)

Mujahideen sources reported 350 incidents in 26 of the 29 Afghan provinces in October 1987. They included 99 Mujahideen strikes against mobile and 139 strikes against immobile targets.

Soviet-Kabul forces conducted atleast 86 air and 26 ground operations, according to Mujahideen sources in October 1987. Air-cum-ground operations were carried out in 8 provinces.

Intense fighting took place in Logar, Pakiya, Kabul and Ningarhar. Fairly extensive clashes were reported from Qandahar, Ghazni, Kunar and Kunduz provinces.

Urban conflict was reported from and around 13 provincial capitals including three major cities, Herat, Qandahar and Kabul.

There was a marked increase in bomb blasts in the Afghan capital. It appears that both "counter revolutionary" and "opposition elements" made several attempts to sabotage the Second National PDPA conference held in Kabul on October 18-20. Soviet and Kabul media carried a number of stories on seizure of guerilla vehicles carrying arms and ammunition to Kabul. Kabul New Times reported seizure of 316 kilograms of explosives on October 17 from a Kabul suburb. Similarly, a taxi laden with 114 kilograms of explosives was apprehended near a commercial centre in Kabul on October 18.

The Soviet-Kabul forces manifestly increased the tempo of both ground and air attacks on certain selected targets and their aim seemed to be not only to kill and destroy but also in a greater measure to intimidate. Mujahideen despatches speak of Soviet-Kabul atrocities on the civilian population including the use of napalm bombs. Analysts relate it to frustration. Dr. Najib himself reflected what might be called desperation in his address at the second PDPA conference in Kabul.

Mujahideen struck a number of significant targets during October 1987. Beside hitting convoys and mobile detachments they attacked:

- Military installations in Nimruz, Ghazni, Paktika, Herat, Kabul and Wardak.
- Supply godowns and depots in Pakiya, Ningarhar, Uruzgan and Kapisa.
- Airport installations in Uruzgan.
- Khad establishments in Laghman and Wardak provinces.

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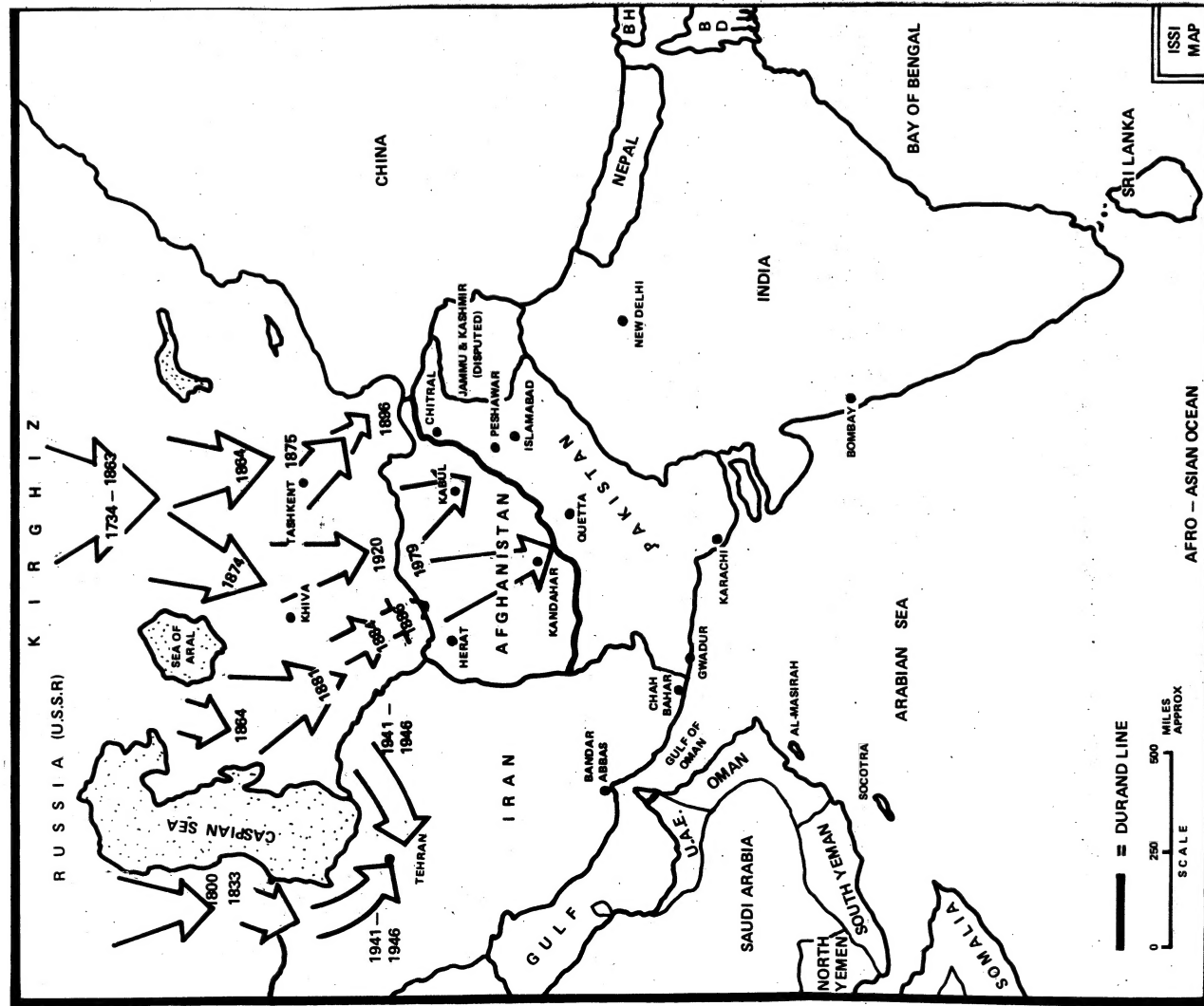
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Mujahideen also blasted the pipeline carrying natural gas to the Soviet Union at Pashma Qila and Asiab Barg in Balkh province. The attacks were conducted on October 2 and 7 respectively.

Mujahideen also captured a mine of "precious stones" in Kushk district of Herat. The nature and commercial value of the precious stones was being debated.

In all, 15 helicopters and 8 aeroplanes were hit by the Mujahideen, according to reports received in October. These included 6 helicopters and 3 planes hit in late September, but reported in October. 3 planes were destroyed while landing on air fields: 2 helicopters were annihilated on ground.

Internal differences

Differences among the various tiers and cadres of the "ruling party" received wide attention this month. Here are some excerpts from Dr. Najib's speech at the PDPA conference held in Kabul on October 18, 1987.

"... During the long period overt and covert factionalism which has destroyed the oneness of the ranks of the party has existed. ... The Central Committee would pay serious ... attention to ... the issue of unification of the Party and struggle for implementation of the policy of national accord. It should be placed at the top of priority tasks. ... In addition to factionalism and groupings (existing) since the days of the establishment of the Party there was also ... a hard struggle for power among separate groups ... Therefore the question arises in the minds of people: how can you secure order in the country while you cannot ensure this in your own party? ... The Khalqis are thinking about their own faction and the Parachamies about their own. Who will think about the PDPA?"

The speech of PDPA's central committee secretary, Saleh Mohammad Zeary, also referred to "Factionalism in the Party". Kabul New Times of October 24 quoted him as saying:

"... Why then, again and again ... we refer to the problem of unity in the ranks of the party? Why do we tell party members, over and over again, that ... split definitely leads to defeat and annihilation? The reason is simple. There never has existed in the Party the needed level of unity ... Useless articulation about unity, for a large number was sporadic and they cannot see beforehand the danger split poses to the Party ... If we do not gain our unity right now, then it would be too late! If we do not unite today, sure enough we shall be defeated and our revolutionary achievements will be lost. Political, even physical death, will be waiting for us tomorrow".

2 — MAJOR MILITARY ENGAGEMENTS

Logar

Soviet-Kabul forces initiated a series of punitive strikes on September 26. A bus carrying civilians was hit by gunship helicopters. 23 civilians were killed and 9 wounded. Soviet helicopters bombed Mujahideen centres near Mohammad Agha town on September 27.

Mujahideen encountered with military convoys near Kulangar. Mujahideen attacked security posts at Pule-e-Alam, Khushi and Baboos. They also conducted operations at Surkhab, Borag, Dobandi and Aab-e-Chakan.

Soviet made bombers hit Zaqum Khel and Sallozai villages. Gunship helicopters strafed Momand, Abraham Khel and Rukh villages.

Mujahideen sources say these helicopters also dropped napalm bombs on villages and a large number of houses were damaged/destroyed in Barake Rajan, Barake Barak, Qala-e-Zarghani, Haji Baba, and Qutab Khel.

Pad-Khaw village, near Logar provincial capital, was completely destroyed and a large number of civilians and Mujahideen were killed. Mujahideen said that Soviet-Kabul contingents came from Kabul and Gardez.

On October 19 Soviet-Kabul jets conducted raids on ten villages of Barake Barak district. These villages included Aab-e-Josh, Saray, Qala-e-Bakori, Baberi, Ziarat Khalifa Saheb and Deh Dushabe. Two days later six other villages including Qala-e-Jugi, Abdul Fateh Tagab, Qala-e-Sungi, Cheltan, Darra-e-Sheikh were attacked. A large number of civilians were killed and injured. Crops and live-stocks were badly affected by napalm bombs.

Mujahideen attacked Pule-e-Alam on October 21 with missiles. Mujahideen ambushed a convoy heading towards Gardez. Several tanks were hit in Sher Darwaza area.

Jozjan

Fierce clashes took place when Soviet-Kabul ground forces attacked Mujahideen strongholds around Shiberghan. Both sides suffered casualties.

Zabul

Mujahideen vehicles carrying arms and ammunition to the front were bombarded by Afghan airforce jets. Mujahideen suffered heavy casualties besides loss of arms and ammunition.

Mujahideen also blasted the pipeline carrying natural gas to the Soviet Union at Pashma Qila and Asiab Barg in Balkh province. The attacks were conducted on October 2 and 7 respectively.

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Zabul

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Paktiya

On September 27, Mujahideen attacked installations in Khost cantonment. Soviet-Kabul troops in Daragai, Matun, Musa Khan Qila, Mani Kandau areas and Targhar were also attacked.

They also hit 2 transport aircraft which were about to land at Khost.

Mujahideen attacked Narai, Ali Khel garrison and Tooran security post.

Mujahideen ambushed Soviet-Kabul troops near Jehadwal, Ghalang, Khar Chatal and Jaji.

Heavy fighting was reported from Afghan army positions in Chamkani and Khost divisions.

Some families belonging to Ahmed Khel tribes switched loyalties and handed over large quantity of weapons to Mujahideen.

Mujahideen reported that Brigadier Baryale, commander of 36th brigade in Jaji was wounded when Mujahideen missiles hit his office on October 20.

Kabul

Mujahideen attacked security posts at Shekardara, Doran Khel and Saroobi, and regime troops at Qarah Bagh. Mujahideen exploded a time bomb at a Kabul city bus station and raided Khair Khana, Chamtala and Khake Jabbar, as well as, officers, residences at Khawaja Bughra and security posts near Guldara.

Mujahideen fired missiles at the army camps of Sher Shahi, Bala Hisar, and Said Khel.

Mines laid by Mujahideen blew up a tank at Musay, Chahar Asiab district.

Mujahideen overran Pishi security post in Paghman. They fired long range rockets at Macrorayon area on October 10 and 13.

Mujahideen attacked security posts of Maluk Khel and Shamanzai near the capital and captured arms and ammunition from there.

Mujahideen attacked Chakari battalion headquarters, and hit a "palace" of the former King Zahir Shah, currently being used by Soviet-Kabul forces for their own purposes.

3 — PROVINCEWISE SURVEY ANALYSIS

Provinces Bordering Pakistan

Nimruz (also bordering Iran)

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen made a rocket/missile attack on

sub-divisional headquarters of Khash Rod and destroyed 2 bunkers on September 26. Eight Soviet-Kabul troops were killed.

On October 14 they invested a security post near Karamat Koh south of Zaranj. After some resistance the Soviet-Kabul forces bolted carrying with them 4 dead bodies. The security post building was demolished.

VIRA: Positions of the Mujahideen in the surrounding areas of the provincial headquarters of Nimruz were attacked by the Soviet-Kabul troops. In the course of the clashes 15 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and 10 others injured. The enemy troops were compelled to retreat.

According to another report the Mujahideen destroyed 7 enemy tanks in Dehzad, Deh Del Khan (ph), Badme and Ibrahimabad villages. In this fighting 29 enemy troops were killed and 43 others injured. One Afghan Mujahid was also martyred in the fighting (News Pushto: 18 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: Afghan Muslim revolutionaries killed or wounded 132 Soviet-Kabul troops, in recent clashes in Nimruz and Herat provinces. Ten tanks and military vehicles of the enemy were also set ablaze.

According to an IRNA report, the Afghan Mujahideen repulsed the communist troops and liberated two villages of Nimruz province from the aggressive troops, in their operations two weeks ago. In retaliation, the Mujahideen sources said, aircraft of the aggressive troops bombarded civilian residential areas of the province, causing heavy losses in men and material to the civilian population (17 October 87).

Hilmand

Mujahideen sources: Soviet-Kabul security forces raided a residential building in Lashkargah, headquarters of Hilmand province, September 19 and tortured 7 inmates to death. They suspected the premises were being used as a secret rallying place for the Mujahideen. The building was burnt. The 7 inmates included women and children.

On September 22 Mujahideen conducted a rocket attack on Soviet army positions in Sari Kalan area. A tank was hit. On September 27, they attacked another Soviet military camping areas at Bund-e-Sarda. They wiped out a security post in Grishik town on October 2. Twelve regime soldiers were killed or wounded.

VIRA: Afghan Mujahideen launched an attack on the position of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Charkalan area of Hilmand province as a result of which a number of Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and a Soviet tank was destroyed while a huge quantity of arms and ammunition were also seized by the Mujahideen (5 October 1987).

Paktiya

On September 27, Mujahideen attacked installations in Khost cantonment. Soviet-Kabul troops in Daragai, Matun, Musa Khan Qila, Mani Kandau areas and Targhar were also attacked.

They also hit 2 transport aircraft which were about to land at Khost.

Mujahideen attacked Narai, Ali Khel garrison and Tooran security post.

Mujahideen ambushed Soviet-Kabul troops near Jehadwal, Ghalang, Khar Chatal and Jaji.

Heavy fighting was reported from Afghan army positions in Chamkani and Khost divisions.

Some families belonging to Ahmed Khel tribes switched loyalties and handed over large quantity of weapons to Mujahideen.

Mujahideen reported that Brigadier Baryale, commander of 36th brigade in Jaji was wounded when Mujahideen missiles hit his office on October 20.

Kabul

Mujahideen attacked security posts at Shekardara, Doran Khel and Saroobi, and regime troops at Qarah Bagh. Mujahideen exploded a time bomb at a Kabul city bus station and raided Khair Khana, Chamtala and Khake Jabbar, as well as, officers, residences at Khawaja Bughra and security posts near Guldara.

Mujahideen fired missiles at the army camps of Sher Shahi, Bala Hisar, and Said Khel.

Mines laid by Mujahideen blew up a tank at Musay, Chahar Asiab district.

Mujahideen overran Pishi security post in Paghman. They fired long range rockets at Macrorayon area on October 10 and 13.

Mujahideen attacked security posts of Maluk Khel and Shamanzai near the capital and captured arms and ammunition from there.

Mujahideen attacked Chakari battalion headquarters, and hit a "palace" of the former King Zahir Shah, currently being used by Soviet-Kabul forces for their own purposes.

3 — PROVINCEWISE SURVEY ANALYSIS

Provinces Bordering Pakistan

Nimruz (also bordering Iran)

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen made a rocket/missile attack on

sub-divisional headquarters of Khash Rod and destroyed 2 bunkers on September 26. Eight Soviet-Kabul troops were killed.

On October 14 they invested a security post near Karamat Koh south of Zaranj. After some resistance the Soviet-Kabul forces bolted carrying with them 4 dead bodies. The security post building was demolished.

VIRA: Positions of the Mujahideen in the surrounding areas of the provincial headquarters of Nimruz were attacked by the Soviet-Kabul troops. In the course of the clashes 15 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and 10 others injured. The enemy troops were compelled to retreat.

According to another report the Mujahideen destroyed 7 enemy tanks in Dehzad, Deh Del Khan (ph), Badme and Ibrahimabad villages. In this fighting 29 enemy troops were killed and 43 others injured. One Afghan Mujahid was also martyred in the fighting (News Pushto: 18 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: Afghan Muslim revolutionaries killed or wounded 132 Soviet-Kabul troops, in recent clashes in Nimruz and Herat provinces. Ten tanks and military vehicles of the enemy were also set ablaze.

According to an IRNA report, the Afghan Mujahideen repulsed the communist troops and liberated two villages of Nimruz province from the aggressive troops, in their operations two weeks ago. In retaliation, the Mujahideen sources said, aircraft of the aggressive troops bombarded civilian residential areas of the province, causing heavy losses in men and material to the civilian population (17 October 87).

Hilmand

Mujahideen sources: Soviet-Kabul security forces raided a residential building in Lashkargah, headquarters of Hilmand province, September 19 and tortured 7 inmates to death. They suspected the premises were being used as a secret rallying place for the Mujahideen. The building was burnt. The 7 inmates included women and children.

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Another report from Hilmand province says that in a series of attacks by the Mujahideen in Sangeen Woleswali 20 posts of the enemy were destroyed and scores of their military personnel were killed. In these operations, the Mujahideen seized different kinds of weapons including 15 klashnikovs (News Pushto: 15 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: The Mujahideen also launched an attack on a military convoy of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Hilmand province as a result of which three trucks loads of their military equipment were set on fire by the Mujahideen (News Persian: 30 October 1987).

Radio Bangladesh: The spokesman added that Mujahideen had shot down another Soviet jet aircraft on 15 of this month in Kajaki area of Hilmand province (30 October 1987).

Qandahar

Mujahideen sources: September 17: Soviet-Kabul troops kill more than 15 civilians including women and children in the neighbourhood of their camping grounds near the Qandahar Teachers Training Institute.

September 18: Mujahideen make a 'retaliatory' attack on regime soldiers in the Qandahar Teachers Training Institute grounds. 'Tens' of Soviet-Kabul troops killed.

Mujahideen also manage to mix some 'poisonous' substances with food served to regime soldiers resulting in the death of a large number of them somewhere in Qandahar, possibly those camping at the Teachers Training Institute.

Eight Mujahideen killed in a clash with 'Russian' soldiers in the Maiwand district. Two Soviet tanks were also destroyed.

September 22: Mujahideen attack a military convoy in Dand area with rockets.

September 24: Soviet-Kabul troops shell Mujahideen positions 'around' Qandahar city. Three Mujahideen killed and 4 injured.

September 28: Mujahideen destroy an armoured vehicle of a Soviet-Kabul 'mobile force' in Panjwai sub-division.

On the night of October 11, "regime troops brought from Jowzjan province" set fire to and destroy approximately 300 "wooden shops"—possibly shacks — near the "Holy Shrine" in downtown Qandahar. The soldiers also indulged in looting shops in the same area.

On the following day, Mujahideen attacked a military convoy moving from Qandahar to the border town of Spin Buldak. A tank was destroyed.

On October 5, Mujahideen hit Soviet-Kabul positions in Arghandab district. Six soldiers were killed and a quantity of food stuffs and weapons was seized.

In retaliation, DRA troops bombarded Chowk Shuhada areas from the air as well as with BM-13 rockets. About 50 innocent civilians were killed or wounded.

On October 14, urban guerillas raided a security post in Chahar Bagh area. The attack was followed up with another on the following day when Mujahideen destroyed a truck and a jeep near Kalahi.

VIRA: Mujahideen launched an attack on the office of the governor of Qandahar on the 17th of Meezan as a result of which 10 militiamen of the puppet regime were killed and 16 others injured.

According to another report, a Soviet plane which was bombarding the civil population of Panjwai was shot down by the Mujahideen on the 9th of October.

Reports received from Qandahar say that as a result of fighting between the Mujahideen and Soviet-Kabul troops in Karez area, 6 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and heavy losses caused to their military equipment (News Persian: 27 October 1987).

Mujahideen raided the positions of the Soviet-Kabul troops in the suburbs of Qandahar city on the 17 of October. In the attack 9 communist troops were killed and a large number of others were injured.

Similarly, on the same day a security post of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Charmanzil area was attacked as a result one communist was killed and 7 others were injured and one of them joined the ranks of the Mujahideen (News Persian: 30 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: Clashes are continuing between Afghan Mujahideen and communist troops in Logar, Qandahar and Ghazni provinces. According to reports Afghan Mujahideen have shot down four enemy helicopters with rockets. They also launched missile attacks on the Soviet-Kabul troops bases in Logar, Ghazni and Qandahar provinces, as a result of which heavy losses in men and material were inflicted on the enemy (7 October 1987).

The Mujahideen killed 15 communist troops and destroyed several tanks and armoured vehicles in two operations in Torghar area in Qandahar province. In these operations, the Mujahideen also captured a huge quantity of arms and ammunition from the aggressive troops (11 October 1987).

Radio Bangladesh: Mujahideen have launched many big offensives on the Soviet-Kabul troops in Qandahar province. They have constantly been attacking airports, military bases and military convoys and destroyed three tanks and armoured vehicles near the Qandahar city (News Urdu: 31 October 1987).

VOA: In Afghanistan, fierce fighting is continuing near city of

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Qandahar where Afghan government troops have intensified their operations to destroy Mujahideen strongholds in suburbs. In a despatch, VOA correspondent in Islamabad, John Shultz says the fighting around Qandahar has been continuing for many days and fresh clashes are particularly fierce. Here is Shahida Kazmi with details:

Reports of the heavy fighting have been received through some injured Mujahideen who are being treated in Quetta. While these reports could not be confirmed by independent sources, a number of people have also reported a similar fresh and large scale offensive led by Soviets at Mohallajat. It is situated near the second biggest Afghan city, Qandahar where intermittent and bloody fighting has been continuing since May. In the latest fighting, according to an estimate, 1200 Soviet troops and a large number of Afghan troops are trying to cut off two important positions of Mujahideen from Mohallajat.

According to the fresh reports, the fighting has been continuing since October 13 and the loss of life to both the sides till Monday reflects its intensity. Mujahideen sources say they have destroyed a number of armoured vehicles, 21 Soviet tanks by mines and rocket launchers and killed 30 Soviet troops including 6 advisors. They also claimed that 150 Afghan government troops have been killed and nearly 35 have joined Mujahideen ranks. It is reported that 15 Mujahideen have died while 25 others were wounded. Eleven of them are being treated in Quetta.

For over a month Soviet military is shelling Mujahideen positions in the suburban areas of Arghandab. Some experts say the action against Mohallajat is aimed at cutting off supply routes in Arghandab and suburbs of Panjwai (Radio Report Urdu: 23 October 1987).

Radio Netherland: The troops of the Soviet occupation force and regular Afghan army soldiers have launched operations against rebels in several parts of the country including Qandahar and Logar, south of Kabul. The operations are being supported by helicopter gunships. Reports say that the Afghan army have lost dozens of men in fighting with the rebels. It is not known how many men of the Soviet troops have been lost (News English: 27 October 1987).

Radio Moscow: In Afghanistan, where national reconciliation is continuing another group of more than 800 refugees has returned home. Local authorities provided them with material aid, housing and jobs. In Qandahar, Herat and Baghlan provinces three anti-government groups have laid down their arms. Their leaders announced they took the government side and supported the national reconciliation policy.

A former anti-government group leader now Governor of Baghlan province, Haji Sultan Muhammad, told a news conference in Moscow that since the reconciliation policy was announced more than 30,000 members of the opposition have sided with the government, and that 83,000 refugees have returned home.

The Afghan leader Najibullah has told Newsweek that when interference in Afghanistan's affairs by the United States and its allies ends and guarantees provided that this interference will not resume, the limited Soviet troops contingent will return home (Focus on Asia and the Pacific English: 12 October 1987).

Zabul

Mujahideen sources: 20 September: A helicopter shot down (somewhere in Zabul province).

29 September: Soviet aircraft spot and bombard a Mujahideen supply convoy consisting of 27 vehicles near Atghar in Shinkai district. The convoy was carrying arms and ammunition. Thirty Mujahideen were killed and 38 injured.

Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul troops in Schamalzalai area. A tank and another armoured vehicle destroyed.

On October 22, an armoured car of a mobile Soviet-Kabul force was damaged in a minefield laid by Mujahideen near Shah Joi township on Kabul-Qandahar highway.

Radio Tehran: The Muslim Afghan freedom fighters are reported to have attacked a military stronghold of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Zabul province, killing at least 12 communist troops and destroying 2 tanks and armoured vehicles (News Urdu: 28 October 1987).

Ghazni

Mujahideen sources: 21 September: Mujahideen attack Gulan, Muqur district. Eight "regime activists" killed.

25 September: Mujahideen hit a military truck in Ghazni city.

26 September: Mujahideen ambush a military convoy on Kabul-Qandahar highway in Qarbagh district. In fighting which continued from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. 6 tanks and APCs and 5 trucks were destroyed. One officer and 2 soldiers captured. Mujahideen lost 5 fighters.

29 September: A tank damaged by a mine planted by Mujahideen on Kabul-Qandahar road near Ghazni city.

Mujahideen hit security post near Muqur. Several Soviet-Kabul soldiers killed.

Soviet planes bombard Mujahideen centres and villages.

On October 4, Mujahideen attacked a military training centre in

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Mujahideen also fired rockets on a Soviet-military camp at Aab-e-Band and installations in Alam Khan area.

Eleven regime soldiers were killed and a tank and an armoured car destroyed during a Mujahideen attack on a military convoy near Muqur town on October 17.

VIRA: Afghan Mujahideen launched an attack on a military convoy of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Ghazni area. In the attack, 10 military trucks of the Soviet-Kabul troops were destroyed and a number of communist troops were killed or injured (News Persian: 17 October 87).

A report received from Ghazni says that defection from the Armed Forces of the communist regime is continuing. According to the report 20 government troops joined the Mujahideen ranks in Ghazni province on September 29th (News Pushto: 18 October 1987).

Another source of the Mujahideen reports from Ghazni province that the Mujahideen rocketed Soviet-Kabul troops positions in the province on the 8th of October, destroying Soviet tanks and military vehicles. Eleven enemy troops including one Soviet soldier were also killed (News Persian: 24 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: The Muslim Afghan revolutionaries ambushed a military convoy of the Kabul regime in Karabagh area of Ghazni province on September 23. The attack was launched by Mujahideen of Nasar Organization which lasted four hours. An armoured vehicle and a military truck loaded with various types of weapons were also captured along with 10 soldiers (News Urdu: 4 October 1987).

Afghan Mujahideen launched an attack on a military supply convoy of the Soviet-Kabul near Muqur town in Ghazni province as a result of which 11 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed or injured while two Soviet tanks were also destroyed (News Persian: 28 October 1987).

On October 5, the Mujahideen attacked a Soviet military convoy in the south west of Ghazni and destroyed at least seven armoured vehicles and captured ten trucks.

The sources said Mujahideen have been engaged with the Soviet units in fighting in Qandahar, Balkh and Parwan provinces (Radio Report Urdu: 14 October 1987).

On October 7, Mujahideen attacked a Soviet-Kabul force near Waza Khau. They also destroyed a tank and another heavy vehicle in Katwaz sub-division. Mujahideen lost three fighters.

Paktika

Mujahideen sources: Two tanks were destroyed and 28 Soviet-

Kabul troops killed during a Mujahideen attack on a military convoy coming to Wazi Khuwa from Muqur on September 3.

Paktiya

Mujahideen sources: 27 September: Mujahideen shot down a helicopter which crashed near Khost.

Mujahideen shell Khost cantonment.

Mujahideen inflict 'severe losses' on Soviet-Kabul troops in Dargai, Matoon, Moosa Khan Qila and Mandi Kandao area.

Soviets bombard villages in the vicinity of Zadrang.

Two Soviet transport planes carrying supplies to Khost were shot down by anti-aircraft guns on October 3. The wreckage of the planes fell near Torghar cantonment which had been shelled by Mujahideen a day earlier. A number of troops were killed and wounded and a tank damaged.

On October 6, Mujahideen of the Jihadwal Front destroyed an armoured vehicle of a mobile force. They also attacked another Soviet-Kabul force at Ghalang, killing 12 Kabuli soldiers.

On October 8, Mujahideen fired 107mm rockets on Soviet-Kabul troops at Jaji. One tank was destroyed and 7 soldiers killed.

On October 9, an ammunition depot was blasted in Narai.

On October 10, Mujahideen destroyed a security post at Mir Zaka.

A helicopter was also destroyed by "Toota Khel" tribe in the same area.

An unconfirmed report said that Mujahideen had captured 8 military vehicles (somewhere in Paktiya) on October 12.

Soviet-Kabul force in Jaji cantonment was reinforced with fresh troops from Kabul on October 16. The contingent arrived via Gardez.

Reports received on October 17 said that heavy fighting was taking place between Kabul regime army and combined forces of Mujahideen in various border regions of Paktiya. Fighting centred around Afghan army bases at Ali Khel, Nari, Chamkani and Khost. Sporadic battles had begun towards the end of September.

A Soviet jet fighter was shot down in Hashim Khail region of Jaji on October 22. The aeroplane was bombarding Mujahideen positions.

A transport plane was hit and destroyed shortly before landing at the Khost airport on October 26.

VIRA: On September 26th the Mujahideen attacked a military convoy of the invading troops in Paktiya province. During the operations which continued for about 5 hours 23 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed (News Pushto: 11 October 1987).

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Khost area on the 27th of August as a result of which heavy losses in men and material were caused to Soviet-Kabul troops (12 October 87).

Two ammunition depots of the enemy troops were set on fire by the Mujahideen in Nari area of Jaji Wolesswali (20 October 1987).

According to a press release of the Mujahideen the Kabul puppet regime distributed arms and ammunition in some villages of Paktiya province to fight against the Mujahideen but against the expectations of the Kabul regime, the people of these villages, along with all their arms and ammunition, joined the ranks of the Mujahideen (27 October 87).

Radio Tehran: The Afghan Muslim Freedom Fighters shot down a helicopter of the aggressive Soviet-Kabul troops in Paktiya province last week.

The Mujahideen also inflicted heavy losses on the communist troops when they attacked military installations of the Kabul regime in Paktiya province recently.

In retaliation, the aircraft of the communist troops bombarded several areas of the province due to which 4 civilians were martyred (News Pushto: 4 October 1987).

The Afghan Mujahideen shot down 2 transport planes of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Khost city of Paktiya province.

Also in Paktiya province, the Mujahideen attacked two arsenals of the communist troops, in Jaji Ulaswali and set them on fire (News Pushto: 19 October 1987).

Another report says that a Soviet plane was shot down by the Mujahideen with rockets near Khost in Paktiya province and the pilot and all the persons on board were killed (News Persian: 29 October 87).

Radio Bangladesh: The Afghan Mujahideen have shot down a Soviet transport plane at Khost airport in Paktiya province. According to Mujahideen they attacked this plane with a missile on Monday when it was going to land. The Russian pilot and five Russian soldiers were killed (News Urdu: 30 October 1987).

Ningarhar

Mujahideen sources: Reports received on October 15 speak of fierce battles taking place between a combined force of Mujahideen and Afghan regime troops around several security posts in the Ghanikhel district and Taudachena region of Shinwar division, about 40 miles from Pak-Afghan border. The Mujahideen were reported to be using BM-12 and ground-to-ground missiles to dislodge Afghan militia from bunkers and fortified positions.

The fighting had broken out on October 7. By October 15, six security posts had been wiped out in Ghanikhel district. A tank and a

truck were also knocked out. Similarly, a number of security posts had been overrun in Taudachena region of Shinwar. On October 20, Mujahideen attacked security posts at Charbagh, Hasmazai and Kuz Sultan.

VIRA: In a series of activities, the Afghan Mujahideen destroyed two military posts of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Ningarhar province in the recent past.

According to a report of an information source from Islamabad, fierce fighting is still going on between the Afghan Mujahideen and the Soviet-Kabul troops in Ningarhar province (12 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: Afghan Mujahideen launched an attack on the positions of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Ningarhar province during the current week and occupied three enemy military posts (8 October 87).

Mujahideen are reported to have destroyed seven posts of the communist troops in Ningarhar province (11 October 1987).

BBC: Reports received in Peshawar say that a group of Afghan guerillas attacked defence posts of eastern Ningarhar province on 7th October. The guerillas say that they captured nine posts in Ghanikhel and Tudeh Cheena areas and the fighting is continuing. The posts are at a distance of about 20 miles from Pakistan border (News Urdu: 16 October 1987).

Radio Kabul: Charge d'Affairs of the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Foreign Ministry at 3.00 p.m. today and following note was handed-over to him by the Incharge of the First Political Section.

According to the reports on October 6th, Shamshad Post of the Border Force in Ningarhar province was shelled by the Pakistan troops from across the border. The Afghan government strongly protests with the Pakistan government over these attacks of the Pakistan Armed Forces and demands from the concerned officials of Pakistan to halt such provocative activities, which generate tension in the area, otherwise the responsibility of its grave consequences would rest with the Pakistani officials.

Similarly the Pakistan government has claimed that on September 29th and 30th and October 1st, the Afghan artillery shelled the Ghakhi and Gardhi Bagh area in Bajaur Agency. The Afghan government after a comprehensive investigation describe these allegations as baseless and far from facts, rejects them and asks the Pakistan government officials to stop levelling such baseless allegations, which will have no other result except to worsen situation on the border areas (14 October 87).

Kabul New Times: What would have been a big tragedy was averted by the timely intervention of security forces who seized 28 kg of explosives secretly kept by extremist elements in Sar Shahi Bazar,

Khost area on the 27th of August as a result of which heavy losses in men and material were caused to Soviet-Kabul troops (12 October 87).

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Rodat district of Ningarhar province for killing innocent people. The criminals were apprehended (1 October 1987).

Thanks to the vigilance of the security forces, a planned rocket attack by extremist elements on Dehblou village, Sorkhrod district, Ningarhar province was foiled. The criminals' plan was discovered and two rocket launchers seized from the by the security forces (BIA) (KNT: 5 October 1987).

Kunar

Mujahideen sources: 14 September: Soviet-Kabul troops attack Mujahideen strongholds in Gunjgal and Nawa areas. Attack beaten back.

16 September: Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul troops in Wata Poor area, destroying a tank and killing and wounding a number of soldiers and "Khad agents".

24 September: Mujahideen fire mortars and PRG-7 on security posts in Khas Kunar district.

27 September: Soviets bombard Mujahideen bases around Asmar, killing 9 and injuring 22.

29 September: A tank, a tractor and 4 other vehicles were destroyed when Mujahideen attack a Soviet-Kabul convoy in Sang Gooli area.

Mujahideen attacked security posts in Narang and Lachgali areas on October 10, knocking out a tank and another vehicle. On October 22, they downed an aeroplane in the Arando area. A helicopter was brought down at Shabazi on October 28.

Radio Tehran: Mujahideen are reported to have killed a leader of the ruling communist party, in Kunar province and captured ten government employees including two officers (News Pushto: 30 October 1987).

Afghan Mujahideen launched another attack on the positions of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Kunar province as a result of which the Mujahideen captured three tanks alongwith personnel on board and shifted them to their own base near the border (News Persian: 8 October 1987).

Some other reports say that the Mujahideen also made their target a border military garrison of the Communist troops in Kunar province and destroyed two helicopters alongwith all the crew members (News Urdu: 9 October 1987).

Radio Kabul: Two hundred and two families comprising 393 people of our compatriots, have recently returned to their homeland under the conditions of National Reconciliation Commission.

They had previously gone to Pakistan and Iran, from Kunar, Ningarhar, Farah and Herat provinces. According to a report of BIA

correspondent, after providing necessary assistance, these compatriots were transferred to their residential areas (News English: 16 October 1987).

Provinces Bordering Soviet Union

Badakhshan (also bordering Pakistan)

Mujahideen sources: After a fierce hand-to-hand battle lasting 2 hours on October 13, Mujahideen captured a Soviet-Kabul security post near Faizabad. A mortar gun, 7 light and heavy machine guns, a wireless set and 35 klashnikov rifles were taken by Mujahideen along with 10 prisoners.

Kabul Radio: One thousand and fifty one people engaged in armed activities have joined Police units of various districts of Badakhshan province in response to the national reconciliation programme announced by the government. Alongwith the vigilant police force they have seized a large quantity of different types of heavy and light arms and ammunition, from the extremists in the first six months of the current year.

Similarly, 2,272 youth have joined the army during first half of this year. Twenty-seven villages have been cleared of the extremists and peace has been restored there (News Urdu: 23 October 1987).

Takhar

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen attacked a security post guarding the provincial headquarters, Taloqan, on October 24. Five "Soviet" troops were killed and 3 taken prisoner. Six AK-47s, one Dschk, one ZPU, two machine guns and a quantity of ammunition were seized from the post.

Radio Kabul: An armed group of opponents, led by Abdul Wakil surrendered arms to authorities in Rastakh Ulswali of Takhar province.

According to a military correspondent of Bakhtiar News Agency, these people were welcomed by the provincial state and party officials and residents of Takhar province.

The group leader pledged to render all kinds of sacrifices for maintaining peace and security in the country (News Pushto: 20 October 1987).

Kabul New Times: Acting on the demand of the people and commission of national reconciliation of Takhar province, the security forces arrested in Khajaghar district of Takhar province 72 criminal extremists including their ringleaders Abdul Ghani, Khair Mohammad, Ghulamuddin, Bahramuddin, Baz Mohammad and Farid.

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Arms and ammunition which included two cannons, one dashaka, one heavy machine gun, three assorted weapons, 70 surface-to-surface rockets, three rocket launchers with 50 shells and thousands of cartridges were also captured.

The arrest of the extremists has resulted in establishment of peace and security in 16 villages of Khajaghar district of Takhar province.

Thousands of local residents welcomed in a gathering the operations carried out by the security forces in Dasht Qala region of the district for suppression of the extremists who tried to disturb the peaceful life of the district.

Deputy Minister of Defence and the secretary of Takhar provincial party committee spoke on establishment of peace in Takhar and praised the valuable contribution of the people to implementation of the policy of national reconciliation.

Local elders and chieftains who also spoke at the gathering thanked the armed forces for maintaining peace and tranquillity and promised every cooperation in the realization of national reconciliation (KNT: 15 October 1987).

Kunduz

Mujahideen sources: 19 September: Mujahideen attack security post at Si Darak. Five enemy troops killed and 12 captured.

27 September: Soviets drop 12 Napalm bombs in Khanabad indiscriminately killing a large number of villagers and destroying their houses and standing crops and orchards.

Mujahideen launch a rocket attack on a military convoy in the same area.

Meanwhile, a report received on October 11 said that a Soviet armoured unit had ambushed a body of Mujahideen near Archi town. It took the Mujahideen quite some effort and loss of two killed and two others arrested, before they were able to break out of the encirclement. The Soviet-Kabul forces also captured a rocket launcher and 8 klashnikov rifles from the Mujahideen.

Radio Tehran: Muslim Afghan revolutionaries shot down a helicopter of the joint forces of aggressor—Soviet Union and Kabul government in Qalazal city near Soviet border in Kunduz province (23 October 1987).

Radio Kabul: Ainullah upon realizing the humanitarian objectives of national reconciliation laid down his arms in Khanabad Wolesswali of Kunduz province today.

Bakhtar correspondent has reported that later at a meeting held in this connection in Khanabad, the leaders of the group expressed his

support to the Party and government in making the national reconciliation a success.

Meanwhile, 169 families of our compatriots comprising 1,000 members returned to their homeland from abroad (News Pushto: 5 October 1987).

The Afghan security forces have eliminated another anti-social and counter-revolutionary band in Aliabad tehsil in Chargoan district of Kunduz province.

According to reports the anti-social band consisting of 30 people led by one Abdul Haq was engaged in subversive activities, committing murders and plundering in the area for a long time. As a result of this the people of Kunduz complained to the security forces in this connection. Thus the security forces by carrying out an operation have arrested the band along with their arms (News Urdu: 30 October 1987).

Baghlan

Mujahideen sources: 23 September: Mujahideen intercept a Soviet-Kabul mobile unit in Yakh Chal area, killing 3 and capturing 4 regime soldiers.

24 September: Mujahideen storm a security post in Baghlan city, killing 8 regime troops.

27 September: Mujahideen attack military establishments in Baghlan city.

On October 3, Mujahideen launched a sizeable attack on the large Soviet military centre at Qila Gai. They used long range rockets in the attack. The helicopters bring supplies from Mazar-e-Sharif to Qila Gai were hit with missiles and destroyed.

Radio Tehran: The Muslim Afghan freedom fighters are reported to have shot down at least two military helicopters of the Soviet-Kabul troops with the help of anti-aircraft guns in Baghlan province, killing all the crew members on board (14 October 1987).

BBC: According to a report of the Islamic Republic News Agency from Islamabad, the Afghan Mujahideen have liberated three passes in the north of Afghanistan causing heavy losses to the Soviet-Kabul troops.

In the fighting 50 Soviet-Kabul troops were made captive by the Afghan Mujahideen in Baghlan province (News Persian: 18 October 87).

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Mujahideen sources: 8 September: A tank blown up by land-mine at Eshkoo Talli.

13 September: Mujahideen attack a Soviet military convoy at Goori Mar. Many Russians killed.

23 September: Several Russians were killed when Mujahideen fired missiles on their 'base' in Mazar-e-Sharif.

30 September: Mujahideen attack security post near Samarqan-diyar.

On October 2, Mujahideen dynamited gas pipeline at Pashma Qila Chamtal sub-division, west of Mazar-e-Sharif. Soviet troops manning nearby security posts engaged the Mujahideen in a battle in which both sides suffered casualties. The Soviets also lost a tank.

On October 7, Mujahideen hit the pipeline (carrying Afghan natural gas to the Soviet Union) for a second time in a week. The rocket attack took place in the vicinity of Asiab Barg.

VIRA: According to a report from Islamabad, in the course of their activities, the Afghan Mujahideen have blown up a gas pipeline with explosives in Chamtal area of Balkh province during the last week.

The report says that similarly the Mujahideen launched an attack on a military post of the Soviet occupation troops in Samarkandian village of Balkh sub-division of that province. The Mujahideen occupied the post and also captured a huge quantity of arms and ammunition (10 October 1987).

Jozjan

Mujahideen sources: 5-10 September: A Russian force attacks Mujahideen base areas in Sang Charak district. The operation lasted 10 days after which they retreated. Forty "enemy troops" and 10 Mujahideen were killed.

On October 13, another large "Russian-Afghan" force invaded Mujahideen strongholds around the provincial capital city of Shiberghan. Twenty-five Mujahideen were killed and 41 wounded. The invading troops were compelled to retreat under heavy missile attacks by Mujahideen.

Radio Kabul: Military correspondent of Bakhtar News Agency has reported that an 80 member group led by Abdur Rashid which was indulging in armed activities in Darwaz (ph) Woleswali of Jozjan province, surrendered its arms and joined the national reconciliation process. The group pledged full support to the party and government in the implementation of the national reconciliation (News Pushto: 25 October 1987).

Radio Moscow: Six hundred refugees returned to Afghanistan from abroad last week. Two armed groups went over to the side of the popular government in Jozjan and Qandahar provinces (27 October 87).

Faryab

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen attacked a security post guarding the provincial headquarters, Maimana, on September 25, killing 8 Soviet-Kabul soldiers. On the following day Soviet planes bombarded rural areas in the neighbourhood. Fifteen men, women and children were killed.

On October 4, Mujahideen intercepted a military convoy near Almar town, South-West of Maimana. Two armoured vehicles and a jeep were destroyed.

A Soviet jet plane was shot down at Kharwar on October 20. The jet was attacking Mujahideen positions.

VIRA: In a series of their armed activities in the recent days in Maimana city, the provincial capital of Faryab province, the Afghan Mujahideen launched an attack on a military base of the Soviet-Kabul troops inflicting heavy casualties on the Soviet-Kabul troops and destroying a tank of the enemy.

According to the reports from Afghanistan, the Soviet planes bombarded the civil population of Maimana city of Faryab province recently martyred (News Persian: 5 October 1987).

BBC: There has been fierce fighting between the Afghan government troops and the Afghan guerillas in Afghanistan's northern province of Faryab.

Guerilla sources in Peshawar said that two weeks ago the guerillas attacked four bases of the government troops and killed and arrested hundreds of their opponents. These sources say that after this the Afghan government forces backed by the Soviet troops attacked the guerillas. In this attack nearly ten persons were killed. Most of the victims were civilians. These reports could not be confirmed by independent sources (7 October 1987).

Meanwhile, apprehension is also being expressed that one French journalist who was inside Afghanistan was arrested near Maimana town close to the Soviet border. The French Embassy in Islamabad says that it is receiving conflicting reports in this regard and that it is still optimistic that in addition to this journalist two more French journalists who have gone to Afghanistan will return safely (Sairbeen: Urdu: 27 October 1987).

Radio Kabul: Shamsad Khan: Our national reconciliation programme has won the hearts of our Afghan compatriots on their return

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VIRA: In a series of their armed activities in the recent days in Maimana city, the provincial capital of Faryab province, the Afghan Mujahideen launched an attack on a military base of the Soviet-Kabul troops inflicting heavy casualties on the Soviet-Kabul troops and destroying a tank of the enemy.

According to the reports from Afghanistan, the Soviet planes bombarded the civil population of Maimana city of Faryab province recently martyred (News Persian: 5 October 1987).

BBC: There has been fierce fighting between the Afghan government troops and the Afghan guerillas in Afghanistan's northern province of Faryab.

Guerilla sources in Peshawar said that two weeks ago the guerillas attacked four bases of the government troops and killed and arrested hundreds of their opponents. These sources say that after this the Afghan government forces backed by the Soviet troops attacked the guerillas. In this attack nearly ten persons were killed. Most of the victims were civilians. These reports could not be confirmed by independent sources (7 October 1987).

Meanwhile, apprehension is also being expressed that one French journalist who was inside Afghanistan was arrested near Maimana town close to the Soviet border. The French Embassy in Islamabad says that it is receiving conflicting reports in this regard and that it is still optimistic that in addition to this journalist two more French journalists who have gone to Afghanistan will return safely (Sairbeen: Urdu: 27 October 1987).

Radio Kabul: Shamshad Khan: Our national reconciliation programme has won the hearts of our Afghan compatriots on their return

home claiming that all were Afghan refugees and that there were no kochis among them but they do not care about such restrictions and are now returning home day and night in groups. This has greatly unnerved the enemies, Reagan and Zia. Pakistan had imposed restrictions on them because their presence in Pakistan had provided a justification for that country to acquire weapons and billions of dollars.

Faulad Khan: What to speak of the return home of the Afghan refugees only yesterday about five thousand counter-revolutionaries surrendered their arms to the Afghan security forces in Faryab. Only recently, more than two thousand Afghan refugees returned home via Torkham.

Shamshad Khan: The return of thousands of Afghan refugees and heavy amount of money given to the counter-revolutionaries, surrender by thousands of counter-revolutionaries to Afghan security forces have caused concern for Reagan and Zia. This had belied the propaganda of the enemies. We consider it a proof of the success of our national reconciliation programme. Can Reagan dare say that national reconciliation plan does not serve the interest of the PDP and the Revolutionary Government of Afghanistan? Zia and Reagan would now be shedding tears (Friends Dialogue Pushto: 7 October 1987).

Radio Moscow: An armed opposition group comprising five thousand persons has joined the government in Faryab province of Afghanistan. Bakhtar News Agency reports that the group was active in some areas of the province. At a meeting in Faizabad the chief of the group announced that reason to end the struggle against the authorities was the country's leadership, national reconciliation policy and their desire to live peaceful life (News Urdu: 3 October 1987).

Badghis

VOA: Afghan Mujahideen have said that a great number of civilians were killed as a result of the Soviet bombardment in Badghis province near the Soviet-Afghan border and properties were damaged on a large scale. According to reports reaching Pakistan, Mujahideen Commanders say that the Soviet bombardment was made in the Gormach district in retaliation to the attack which the Afghan Mujahideen made on a Soviet convoy on 15th September.

According to a report, the Mujahideen in an ambush had killed eighteen soldiers in their raid. Next day the Soviet forces, in retaliation, started attacks on the hideouts of the Mujahideen. According to the leaders of the Mujahideen this Soviet bombardment killed at least seventy people (News Urdu: 13 October 1987).

In the north-west Mujahideen in Badghis province beat back a

Soviet led effort to set up new security post near the Soviet border on October 17. In the fighting several armoured vehicles were reported destroyed. One helicopter and one bomber were shot down. Six Mujahideen and thirty-one civilians were reported killed in the intense bombing in the area. Twenty more persons including seven Mujahideen were wounded (Radio Report: 25 October 1987).

Provinces Bordering Iran

Herat (also bordering Soviet Union)

Mujahideen sources: 6 September: Mujahideen fire ground-to-ground rockets at Shindand air base. Several Soviet-Kabul soldiers and functionaries were killed and bunkers destroyed.

17 September: Mujahideen attack security post at Daroooley village. Forty-five militiamen surrendered to Mujahideen.

25 September: Former regime commander Abdul Ghani Taimuri (who had joined Mujahideen recently) participates in attacks on Soviet-Kabul troops in Kushk.

On October 10, Mujahideen attacked security posts at Ghorian, west of Herat city, overrunning 4 of them. Twenty-eight Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and wounded.

Meanwhile, during other operations in the outskirts of Herat between October 8 and October 11 they destroyed 2 tanks and captured a quantity of arms and ammunition.

On October 23, Mujahideen attacked a military camp near Pushtoon Zarghoon town, 64 kilometres east of Herat, where regime forces local commander (named Rauf) had already been in liaison with them. Before the battle was joined, commander Rauf came over to the side of Mujahideen with 80 of his men. The remainder of the Soviet-Kabul contingent fled to Herat.

On October 27, Mujahideen attacked Soviet-Kabul troops and establishments in Deh Surk, Zindahjan district, killing 8 soldiers and 13 militiamen. On the following day, they conducted successful guerilla operations in the "western parts of Herat city". Five armoured vehicles were destroyed and 45 Soviet-Kabul soldiers were killed. Another 7 surrendered to them.

VIRA: As a result of the clashes between the Muslim Freedom Fighters and the joint Soviet-Kabul government troops in Islam Qala area of Herat, two tanks of the enemy were destroyed and all their crew-members were killed. A truck carrying rations was also seized and a high official of KHAD, Abdullah was killed in the clashes (5 October 1987).

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A source of the Afghan Mujahideen reports from Herat province that the Mujahideen launched intensive attacks on fifteen military posts of Soviet-Kabul troops in Ghorian Wolessali on 11th of October. In these attacks, 59 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed or injured and a number of military posts were destroyed (24 October 1987).

One of the military bases of the Soviet troops near Shindand airport was attacked by the Mujahideen on the first of October causing heavy losses in men and material.

The report adds that in the attack 30 guards of the base, all of them Soviets, were killed and a number of others were injured and six Soviet tanks and two military trucks were destroyed (31 October 87).

Radio Tehran: The Afghan Mujahideen recently executed a commander of the Afghan militia. According to reports reaching here, the commander was responsible for anti-Mujahideen operations around Herat city. Two of his subordinates were also killed by the Mujahideen.

The Muslim revolutionaries killed four members of the Khad Department and many other government troops in attacks on the 17 Brigade of Herat province and some espionage bases three days ago (News Pushto: 26 October 1987).

In an operation in Ghorian area in west of Herat province the Afghan Mujahideen have inflicted heavy losses in men and material to the Soviet-Kabul troops.

Afghan News Agency adds that during the last week, 32 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed or injured by the Afghan Mujahideen (28 October 1987).

The Afghan Mujahideen killed four government troops in a series of operations which they carried out against the Soviet-Kabul troops in Herat province recently. The Mujahideen also destroyed a vehicle of the enemy and captured a huge quantity of weapons (News Pushto: 31 October 1987).

Kabul New Times: Acting on the demand of local residents and National Reconciliation commission of Herat, the security forces apprehended a group of professional terrorists belonging to the so-called Hezb-e-Islami.

Eight armed terrorists led by Nadir used to create panic and loot the belongings of the people in Qaizan region of Enjil district of Herat (KNT: 15 October 1987).

Radio Moscow: In Afghanistan, the process of national reconciliation is continuing. Moscow Radio correspondent has reported that Herat province has been declared a peace zone. Peaceful life has been restored in two hundred villages of the province. Fifteen thousand former counter-revolutionaries have surrendered in the past. The

National Reconciliation Commission includes nearly nine hundred former opponents of the Afghan government (News Urdu: 13 October 87).

Farah

Mujahideen sources: 16 September: Mujahideen ambush a convoy on Herat Qandahar highway in the vicinity of Aab-e-Khumra. Seven tanks and 9 APCs destroyed.

19 September: Mujahideen attack regime security posts near villages of Shiwan, Dehzak and Kalaqala in Bala Bluk district. Several soldiers and "enemy supporters" were killed and wounded. Another 20 surrendered to the Mujahideen.

VIRA: In well organized attacks on last Tuesday (13 October), the Mujahideen surrounded 11 military posts of the Soviet-Kabul troops which were responsible for the defence of the provincial capital of Farah province.

Attempts of the Soviet-Kabul troops to break out of the siege remained in vain and fierce fighting was continuing between the Mujahideen and the Soviet-Kabul troops in that area.

The reports add that in the combat 20 Soviet-Kabul troops have been killed and several injured while two heavy guns of the communist troops were also destroyed by the Mujahideen.

Another report says that according to the statistics published in Islamabad on Saturday (October 17), during the last nine years one million and one hundred thousand Muslims of Afghanistan have been martyred by the communists and about thirty-four hundred thousand others have been affected.

The statistics have been worked out with the joint cooperation of Gallup Pakistan, Geneva University and some other international organizations to assess the extent of the casualties of the people of Afghanistan during the last nine years (News Persian: 19 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: Muslim Freedom Fighters while repulsing an attack of Kabul government forces in Farah province killed 40 communist troops and destroyed 10 tanks and a large quantity of arms and ammunition. They forced the communist troops to retreat (News Urdu: 14 October 1987).

According to IRNA in a successful attack the Afghan Mujahideen besieged 11 military posts of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Farah province a few days ago.

The report says that in the attack, 20 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and a number of others injured and two heavy guns were also destroyed.

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According to reports the Muslim revolutionaries attacked Kaladara, Farah province with rockets. An ammunition depot of the Kabul forces was also blown up in the attack (News Urdu: 23 October 1987).

Radio Moscow: Under the National Reconciliation policy in Afghanistan another 88 people have returned home in the provinces of Farah and Ningarhar from Iran and Pakistan. They received aid in food and essential goods from the local authorities (22 October 1987).

Central Provinces

Bamiyan

(Nil report from all sources).

Ghor

VIRA: Soviet-Kabul troops launched an attack on the positions of the Mujahideen in Ghor province recently. Their attack was however repulsed by the Mujahideen causing losses to the Soviet troops (27 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: The Afghan Mujahideen are reported to have besieged the city of Chagcharan and have cut the supply line of the government troops. Mujahideen have been holding control of some places in Chagcharan suburbs (News Persian: 30 October 1987).

Radio Kabul: Eight families comprising 57 members returned to Ghor province (8 October 1987).

Uruzgan

Mujahideen sources: 29 September: Mujahideen attack Tarin Kot airport with BM-13 missiles hitting 2 helicopters. Airport building and installations were damaged.

30 September: Mujahideen fire missiles and mortars at 'supply godowns' in Tarin Kot.

A group of Mujahideen engaged a body of regime troops at Guzab, north of Tarin Kot. A military vehicle was destroyed. But, Soviet-Kabul troops counter-attacked, killing 2 and injuring 7 of the Mujahideen.

VIRA: Muslim Freedom Fighters destroyed 2 enemy helicopters on an airfield of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Uruzgan province. The report further adds that a number of enemy troops posted there were also killed (10 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: The Muslim Afghan Freedom Fighters are reported to have carried out a rocket attack on a military airport of the Soviet-

Kabul troops in the heart of the Uruzgan province, destroying two military helicopters of the communists stationed at the airport (15 October 1987).

Kabul and Adjacent Provinces

Kabul

Mujahideen sources: 20 September: A time bomb kills 2 DRA "officials" at a bus station near Bibi Mahroo, between Kabul airport and downtown.

21 September: A security post destroyed in Shakar Darra.

24 September: Mujahideen attack a security post in Sabroobi. A tank destroyed.

27 September: A jet bombarding Mujahideen positions in Tora Ara hit and destroyed.

Two MiGs shot down near Paghman.

29 September: Mujahideen conduct "hit and run" attacks on military barracks and installations in Kabul city. A number of "Soviet military officers" were killed and injured at Khawaja Bughra and Khairkhana.

On October 2, Mujahideen fired an RPG-7 on a low flying helicopter which crashed in Jegdalek. They also shelled Soviet camping grounds of Kharoti in Bagrami. A tank and an APC were blown up.

Four Soviets and 28 Kabuli officials were killed by a violent bomb explosion in Kabul on October 8. The same day Mujahideen fired medium range missiles on army camp of Sher Shahi, Bala Hissar and Said Khel. A tank was destroyed by a land mine in Chahar Asiyab sub-division.

On October 14, Mujahideen conducted a rocket and mortar attack on security posts of Doran Khel, Malik Khel and Shamanzai in Kabul Khurd area. An army truck loaded with arms and ammunition was blasted and about 20 regime soldiers killed and wounded.

On October 20, Mujahideen attacked Soviet battalion centre at Chakri. Atleast 2 vehicles were hit with missiles. They also attacked "palace" (now being used by the Soviets) of the former King Zahir Shah on October 22.

On October 25, Mujahideen captured a security post at Shinai on the Jalalabad-Kabul highway. The building was dynamited.

VIRA: Another report from Afghanistan says that as a result of the explosion of a mine planted by the Mujahideen, a Soviet tank was destroyed and eight persons on board were killed in the suburbs of Charasia Uluswali of Kabul province on the seventeen of the last

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Mujahideen have intensified their activities against the Soviet-Kabul troops in Kabul city and its outskirts.

The report adds that the Afghan Mujahideen recently attacked Kabul airport with rockets causing heavy losses to it.

In retaliation the Soviet aircraft bombed Deh Sabz area causing losses to the civil population (17 October 1987).

Mujahideen launched a rocket attack on a military post of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Paghman sub-division as a result of which the post was destroyed and heavy casualties were inflicted on the troops deployed there. Mujahideen also destroyed a tank of the Soviet troops in the area (19 October 1987).

A report reaching from Kabul says that Karge, western areas of Kabul city, are under full control of Mujahideen. According to the report the Muslim Mujahideen in a series of operations in Karge on October 15th, killed four government officers and seized their jeeps.

Another report from Kabul says that the Mujahideen shot down two helicopters of the invading troops on October 4th in Paghman Wolesswali (23 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: Afghan Mujahideen are continuing their struggle against the Soviet Union and Kabul government. According to an IRNA reports, the Mujahideen shot down 2 Soviet MiG-21 planes on September 16 and 23 in Paghman, East of Kabul. The report adds that pilots of both the planes were killed (News Urdu: 6 October 1987).

Last week, Afghan Mujahideen assembled in the suburbs of Kabul and mounted rocket attacks on the enemy bases in which a number of Soviet-Kabul troops were either killed or wounded. Besides, two military trucks were also destroyed in the attack (News Urdu: 7 October 1987).

The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries have liberated three highways in the northern Afghanistan and set three arms depots of the Soviet-Kabul troops on fire in their successful operations recently. The Mujahideen have captured 50 communist troops and seized a huge quantity of weapons, in these operations, which are continuing.

Similarly, the Mujahideen also destroyed three security posts of the communist troops when they attacked the headquarters of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Bagrami area (19 October 1987).

Radio Jeddah: Mujahideen have shot down a number of aircrafts in Kabul province during last ten days (News Urdu: 7 October 1987).

BBC: The Afghan authorities said the bomb which exploded in the centre of Kabul on October 8, killing 27 people, was the work of anti-government rebels. But diplomats in the Afghan capital say it is more

likely to be the result of infighting within the ruling party.

The powerful bomb went off soon after dark on (October 8) Thursday night. The explosion was heard across most of the city and flames from the fire continued for several hours, easily visible from far away. The area was sealed off by the police. Windows and doors were shattered several hundred yards away. Local people say some of the dead were in queue for burial nearby. The bomb was placed near the Blue Mosque in the centre of the capital. According to Bakhtar, the official Afghan News Agency, it was the work of counter-revolutionaries. But diplomats based here do not believe the Mujahideen rebels would attack such a target. They think it is more probable that this bomb, like other blasts in the city, is the result of infighting between different factions of the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (Newsreel English: 10 October 1987).

According to reports, a leader of Afghan Mujahideen, Abdul Haq, was wounded during an operation in an area close to Kabul.

Abdul Haq is the commander of about four thousand Mujahideen engaged in operations around Kabul.

In an interview to the BBC, the doctor who gave him first aid said that he lost a part of his right leg when he stepped on a land mine. Abdul Haq has been hospitalized in Peshawar but doctors say that he will have to be sent abroad, perhaps to the United States for treatment (News English/Pushto: 20 October 1987).

VOA: In recent days Soviet and Afghan media announced a car bomb blast that caused damage in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan. We hear in this report from VOA's John Shultz from Islamabad the damage may be more extensive than earlier reported:

New details just in from Kabul quote eye witnesses as saying the death toll is much closer to 50 including 5 Afghan government soldiers in a nearby jeep. Moreover analysts cite mounting evidence that indicates the explosion could be the result of political infighting within the Afghan Communist Party and not the work of Mujahideen at all. Other reports indicate a total of 3 bombs exploded in the capital city at the same time. There are no details of these reports. But analysts note the car bomb blast occurred in a restricted parking area and could just be the work of someone with access to a government car. They also note reports from angry residents in the nearby apartment complex who are upset with government security measures. The residents say 40 minutes before the explosion security forces conducted an unprecedented arms search of the apartment complex but failed to cordon off the area despite apparent tips that the explosion might

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Radio Tehran: Afghan Mujahideen are continuing their struggle against the Soviet Union and Kabul government. According to an IRNA reports, the Mujahideen shot down 2 Soviet MiG-21 planes on September 16 and 23 in Paghman, East of Kabul. The report adds that pilots of both the planes were killed (News Urdu: 6 October 1987).

Last week, Afghan Mujahideen assembled in the suburbs of Kabul and mounted rocket attacks on the enemy bases in which a number of Soviet-Kabul troops were either killed or wounded. Besides, two military trucks were also destroyed in the attack (News Urdu: 7 October 1987).

The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries have liberated three highways in the northern Afghanistan and set three arms depots of the Soviet-Kabul troops on fire in their successful operations recently. The Mujahideen have captured 50 communist troops and seized a huge quantity of weapons, in these operations, which are continuing.

Similarly, the Mujahideen also destroyed three security posts of the communist troops when they attacked the headquarters of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Bagrami area (19 October 1987).

Radio Jeddah: Mujahideen have shot down a number of aircrafts in Kabul province during last ten days (News Urdu: 7 October 1987).

BBC: The Afghan authorities said the bomb which exploded in the centre of Kabul on October 8, killing 27 people, was the work of anti-government rebels. But diplomats in the Afghan capital say it is more

likely to be the result of infighting within the ruling party.

The powerful bomb went off soon after dark on (October 8) Thursday night. The explosion was heard across most of the city and flames from the fire continued for several hours, easily visible from far away. The area was sealed off by the police. Windows and doors were shattered several hundred yards away. Local people say some of the dead were in queue for burial nearby. The bomb was placed near the Blue Mosque in the centre of the capital. According to Bakhtar, the official Afghan News Agency, it was the work of counter-revolutionaries. But diplomats based here do not believe the Mujahideen rebels would attack such a target. They think it is more probable that this bomb, like other blasts in the city, is the result of infighting between different factions of the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (Newsreel English: 10 October 1987).

According to reports, a leader of Afghan Mujahideen, Abdul Haq, was wounded during an operation in an area close to Kabul.

Abdul Haq is the commander of about four thousand Mujahideen engaged in operations around Kabul.

In an interview to the BBC, the doctor who gave him first aid said that he lost a part of his right leg when he stepped on a land mine. Abdul Haq has been hospitalized in Peshawar but doctors say that he will have to be sent abroad, perhaps to the United States for treatment (News English/Pushto: 20 October 1987).

VOA: In recent days Soviet and Afghan media announced a car bomb blast that caused damage in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan. We hear in this report from VOA's John Shultz from Islamabad the damage may be more extensive than earlier reported:

New details just in from Kabul quote eye witnesses as saying the death toll is much closer to 50 including 5 Afghan government soldiers in a nearby jeep. Moreover analysts cite mounting evidence that indicates the explosion could be the result of political infighting within the Afghan Communist Party and not the work of Mujahideen at all. Other reports indicate a total of 3 bombs exploded in the capital city at the same time. There are no details of these reports. But analysts note the car bomb blast occurred in a restricted parking area and could just be the work of someone with access to a government car. They also note reports from angry residents in the nearby apartment complex who are upset with government security measures. The residents say 40 minutes before the explosion security forces conducted an unprecedented arms search of the apartment complex but failed to cordon off the area despite apparent tips that the explosion might

occur.

Reports say there were many shoppers in the area when the explosion took place. The blast came amid increased Soviet security activity over the past week or more including fixed and mobile armoured patrols and security posts East and North of Kabul airport. The Thursday's bomb blast is considered the deadliest in Kabul since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979. Earlier this year a car bomb exploded near the Indian Embassy killing at least four persons. In May another bomb exploded in the Kabul bazar after it was announced that former party leader and President Babrak Karmal was in Moscow for medical attention.

Before the second Communist Party Conference which is just to be held in weeks there have been wide-spread reports that the bitter infighting between the two rival wings of the Afghan Communist Party was worst in years. That fighting led to bloodshed, gun-fights and even assassination attempts in the past. As a result many Kabul residents are said to suspect current reports blaming the Mujahideen for the car blast and point out the absence of Afghan or Soviet military installations in that area (Newsline English: 12 October 1987).

Mujahideen have been maintaining their pressure on Kabul. Their hold on an important highway leading towards central parts of the country is very strong. VOA correspondent in Islamabad, Irfan Ghazi reports that non-military traffic between Kabul and Qandahar remained suspended for over a month due to Mujahideen's frequent attacks on Soviet and Afghan military convoys. Here is Qamar Abbas Jaffery with details:

With the rising of the sun, an intensity is witnessed in fighting with Afghan Mujahideen around Kabul. They are struggling to further advance towards the capital. Western diplomats in Islamabad say Mujahideen's rocket attacks on targets in suburbs of Kabul considerably increased during last week. On Friday last, the diplomats saw Mujahideen firing rockets from a mountain pass situated in front of a big Soviet base in the south of the city. They say several places caught fire followed by explosions after the rocket attack. An Afghan source said the Mujahideen also attacked another army base in the area the same day. Besides, rockets were also fired at Soviet and Afghan posts set up to defend the city in north-west of Kabul. Out of them, 12 rockets fell between Darra Dhair Khan and the airport. In retaliation, shelling was seen on the strongholds of Mujahideen in the Paghman area.

According to a western diplomat, Paghman has been a constant

and continuous problem for the Soviet Union and all its attempts to expel Mujahideen from this area in recent months have met with failure (14 October 1987).

Two US journalists are reported to have been killed in Afghanistan and their Mujahideen escorts seriously wounded. As VOA's John Shultz reports details are still sketchy:

The two men are Independent Television journalists Lee Shapiro and Jim Lindelof who were in Afghanistan on a special filming assignment. They died on October 11th or 12th in the area near Sanglakh in Paghman province. They were said to be on their way out of Afghanistan, after more than two months of filming. A spokesman for the Mujahideen Political Party Hazb-e-Islami says the two were accompanied by an Afghan guide translator and an armed resistance fighter from Hizb-e-Islami. The two Afghans are reported badly wounded. A party spokesman in Islamabad told VOA, reports remained sketchy because they are being radioed from inside Afghanistan by the two survivors. Communication has been limited and broken (Radio Report English: 28 October 87).

Radio Kabul: The vigilant Security Forces of the country checked another criminal act of the enemies of the national reconciliation and of the extremist elements. Bakhtar correspondent reports that residents of Lower Afghandae informed the National Reconciliation Commission of Paghman about the development of the ground-to-ground missiles in their area. At the instructions of the National Reconciliation Commission, the Security Forces observing the cease-fire entered the area and recovered twenty ground-to-ground missiles which were ready for firing (News Pushto: 9 October 1987).

The extremist elements by committing another brutal crime have once again exposed their real face. Bakhtar correspondent reports that the extremist elements planted several kilogram explosive material in a car parked near the Sher Pur Jamia Mosque in Kabul's New Society. As a result of the blast our 27 compatriots were martyred and other 35 seriously injured. The injured were rushed to the hospital, wherein they are receiving medical treatment.

According to the report the incident took place round about 7.00 p.m. last night, when our people were busy in shopping in the bazar of Kabul city or were on their way to the Jamia Mosque for offering Isha prayers.

The report added that as a result of the explosion 29 shops, one house and several vehicles parked there were badly damaged (News Pushto: 9 October 1987).

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The report added that as a result of the explosion 29 shops, one house and several vehicles parked there were badly damaged (News Pushto: 9 October 1987).

Military correspondent of Bakhtar News Agency has reported that

the extremist elements once again failed in an attempt to spread terror among the residents of Kabul. According to the report, these extremists planted three kilos of explosive in Mir Walis market of Kabul city. But due to timely action by the vigilant Security Forces and with the co-operation of the local people the device was seized and defused in time (News Pushto: 31 October 1987).

Kabul New Times: The security forces timely foiled an ominous terrorist plan of the extremists in Kabul.

The extremist elements had planted 316 kg of plastic explosives in the suburbs of Kabul city.

The security forces in cooperation of the people discovered the explosives and arrested those involved. The case is under thorough investigation (KNT: 17 October 1987).

One hundred and fourteen kgs of explosive placed in a taxi bearing No. Plate 7919, Kabul, adjacent to the Afghan Department Store (Furoshgah), on October 15 were seized by the security forces, thus foiling another crime planned by the enemies of national reconciliation (KNT: 18 October 1987).

Radio Moscow: The Bakhtar News Agency reports that on Thursday law enforcing bodies in Kabul found a taxi cab loaded with one hundred and fourteen kilograms of explosives. The explosion was to take place when the staff of nearby government offices were to start work in the morning (News English: 16 October 1987).

Parwan

Mujahideen sources: 25 September: Mujahideen fire rockets on security posts east of Charikar, provincial headquarters along the Salang highway.

An army jeep destroyed near Charikar.

An APC was blown up on Salang Highway, killing and injuring 7 Russians in the vehicle on October 16.

One of a team of Soviet soldiers searching for Mujahideen along the Salang Highway near Ayjan was captured and killed on October 20.

Mujahideen ambushed a DRA column of troops on the Salang on October 21. Eight of them were captured and 20 killed.

VIRA: Mujahideen in an attack on enemy positions in Parwan province killed 10 government troops. Three armoured vehicles were also destroyed (11 October 1987).

Mujahideen blasted a hotel in Parwan. It was a centre of activities of Khad Agents. A number of Khad Agents were killed or injured (News Pushto: 23 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: According to an IRNA report the Afghan Freedom Fighters carried out successful operations in Khawaja Sayaran area in Charikar Ulaswali of Parwan province on 24th and 25th of September in which they killed 10 communist troops and destroyed 3 armoured vehicles (5 October 1987).

Similarly, the Mujahideen stormed a military post of the Soviet-Kabul troops in the provincial headquarters of the Parwan province killing at least 5 soldiers. The report says that during the operation a Muslim Mujahid was also killed. The report adds that the Mujahideen also ambushed and destroyed a military vehicle of the enemy troops in the same area, killing all on board (9 October 1987).

Kabul New Times: The extremists fired rockets yesterday at Charkar city, centre of Parwan province.

Two persons were killed and 13 others injured, including women and children (BIA) (KNT: 1 October 1987).

Kapisa

Mujahideen sources: 24-29 September: Mujahideen attack transport along Soviet supply routes passing through Kapisa, destroying 4 tanks and several other vehicles, including oil tankers. Mujahideen fire 107mm rockets on Qala-e-Surkh garrison.

On October 1, Mujahideen attacked Qala-e-Surkh military base area killing at least 20 soldiers and destroying 2 BM-21 multiple rocket launchers.

On October 3, 8 oil tankers were destroyed along the Salang Highway.

On October 9, Mujahideen attacked a security post of Soviet-Kabul troops at Anaba. A tank was destroyed.

On October 13, Mujahideen shot down a helicopter at Rukha.

On October 18, 4 regime soldiers including an officer defected to the Mujahideen.

On October 20, Mujahideen attack two Soviet-Kabul security posts in Kuhna Deh.

On October 21, 8 DRA soldiers were killed in an ambush set by the Mujahideen in Shaba, about 45 kilometres inside the Panjshir valley.

Another report said that the Soviets were employing a 'new strategy' aimed at recapturing the liberated valley of Nooristan and other adjacent areas controlled by the Mujahideen. It was reported that 6 armoured brigades had been deployed in the vicinity of Najrab. Here they can be easily supported by air from Bagram. In the Panjshir valley proper more than 4,000 Soviet soldiers were in operation.

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fire agreement in Kapisa province. Since January, when the policy of national reconciliation was proclaimed in Afghanistan 30,000 rebels laid down their arms and 90,000 refugees returned from abroad (News English: 27 October 1987).

Laghman

Mujahideen sources: Beginning October 24 and spilling over the subsequent some days, a large force of Soviet-Kabul infantry supported by 'hundreds' of tanks and armoured cars attacked Mujahideen bases in Dara Noor, Qala Sahali and other areas in the neighbourhood. More than 12 tanks and armoured cars were destroyed and other 20 damaged on minefields laid by the Mujahideen. A large number of regime soldiers were killed during the operation. Meanwhile, the Mujahideen attacked a 'Khad Office' in the sub-divisional town of Mangoo. They also attacked a military camp in the same area.

Radio Kabul: Several other insurgent groups comprising 85 armed men have joined the national reconciliation process after laying down their arms. A Bakhtar correspondent report from Laghman province says that the responsible party and government officials, religious scholars and other local elite warmly welcomed these compatriots.

Later, the leader of the insurgent groups speaking at a meeting held in this connection announced support for the national reconciliation programme and vowed every kind of sacrifices for restoring peace in the country. The report adds that the members of these armed groups also surrendered a huge quantity of arms and ammunition to the local authorities (News Urdu: 14 October 1987).

Kabul New Times: Acting on the request of the residents the security forces suppressed a number of terrorists belonging to extremist groups who indulged in destructive activities on Omarzai village of Matarlam, centre of Laghman. Arms and ammunition were also seized from the criminals (KNT: 1 October 1987).

Logar

Mujahideen sources: 12 September: Mujahideen attack a Soviet-Kabul convoy (somewhere in Logar province) knocking out 4 tanks and killing number of troops.

19 September: A bus carrying civilians from Khushi to Kabul was attacked by Soviet helicopters near Pule-Alam town, killing 3 men, 11 women and 9 children.

27 September: A Soviet helicopter gunship bombarding Mujahideen "centre" near Mohammad Agha town was hit and destroyed by anti-aircraft fire.

On October 2, Mujahideen attacked a military convoy at Kulangar. Six tanks were destroyed. About 20 "Russians" were killed. On the same day they also attacked a number of security posts in Khushi sub-district. An unspecified number of troops were killed and armoured vehicles destroyed. Mujahideen also lost 5 fighters.

On October 12, Mujahideen intercepted Soviet convoy near Mohammad Agha town.

Soviet-Kabul forces launched a major attack on Mujahideen strongholds in Logar province on October 17. Of the 2 Soviet-Kabul divisions participating in this operation one had been drawn from Kabul and another from Gardez. They destroyed about 500 houses in various parts of Logar province. The Pad Khaw village, about 4 kilometres from the provincial headquarters, was completely destroyed. More than 70 villagers were killed. The villages hit by Soviet land and air forces included Qutal Khel, Zagum Khel Kalingar, Aab-e-Josh, Bad-e-Khawab, and Baboos. Napalm bombs were dropped on Bad-e-Khawaba and Aab-e-Josh. The civilian population of these villages had mostly repaired to the hills for protection when the Soviets arrived.

Mujahideen claimed that they had shot down 3 helicopters and one MiG fighter while resisting the Soviet-Kabul onslaught. The Soviet-Kabul side was believed to have lost about 300 killed. By October 24, the invading force was reported to be retreating, on way back to Kabul and Gardez:

VIRA: A report received from Logar province says that the Muslim Mujahideen in an attack on a military convoy of the enemy troops in Alam Qala, destroyed 20 vehicles of the enemy (23 October 1987).

Radio Tehran: The joint troops of the usurper Soviet Union and Kabul regime, in continuation of their inhuman acts, have used napalm bombs against the Afghan people killing 74 people of Logar province and destroying hundreds of houses. Another report said that the Afghan Mujahideen have destroyed one helicopter and 8 tanks of the joint troops (23 October 1987).

BBC: Fierce fighting is reported to be continuing for the past ten days in Logar province in the west of Kabul.

A BBC correspondent in Islamabad says that according to Afghan guerilla sources nearly 70 civilians and guerillas have been killed as a result of shelling and bombardment. Several houses have also been damaged. The guerillas claim that they have inflicted heavy casualties on the Soviet and Afghan government soldiers.

The diplomats say that several large armoured Soviet and Afghan government convoys headed South from Kabul towards Logar province

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The diplomats say that several large armoured Soviet and Afghan government convoys headed South from Kabul towards Logar province

over the past week. Several convoys also returned to Kabul bringing troops whom the diplomats described as battle weary. Guerilla sources in Peshawar confirmed that over the past ten days, there has been heavy fighting in many parts of Logar including Surkhab, Dobandi, Mohammad Agha and Barki Bark. They say that about 70 civilians and guerillas have been killed in aerial bombing attacks and artillery bombardments. Several hundred houses are also reported to have been flattened. A village, only a few miles from the provincial capital Pul-e-Alam, is said to have been almost completely destroyed. The guerillas claimed to have inflicted heavy casualties on Soviet and Afghan troops and to have destroyed a number of tanks and three aircraft since the fighting began.

Radio Kabul: A group of the extremists who disturbed peaceful life of our people in Mohammad Agha Woleswali in Logar province was wiped out by the Armed Forces. During the Armed Forces operation which took place at the instructions of the National Reconciliation Commission upon the request of the local people, 36 extremists were arrested alongwith different kinds of weapons including 289 rockets (News Pushto: 24 October 1987).

Wardak

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen attacked Soviet-Kabul military establishments and troops in Maidan Shehr, headquarters of Wardak province, with rockets on September 20. Several buildings suffered damage and an unspecified number of Soviet-Kabul troops and regime supporters were killed and wounded. A wireless station at Doraha Tangi and an ammunition depot were also hit.

On October 8, Mujahideen attacked a Soviet convoy near Saidabad town on Kabul-Qandahar road. A tank and two jeeps were destroyed by rocket fire after which the convoy pulled back to Maidan Shehr.

VIRA: The Mujahideen attacked a military post of the Soviet-Kabul troops near Wardak Maidan last week. As a result heavy losses in men and material were inflicted on the Soviet-Kabul troops and the military post was captured by the Mujahideen (7 October 1987).

VOA: Western diplomats say Mujahideen have physical control of Koteasro, (also called Maidan Shehr) the capital of Wardak province. They say as a result of the Mujahideen control of this city, the threat to Kabul-Qandahar highway has increased many-fold as it passes some eight kilometres in the south-east of this city. The Qandahar highway is still closed for non-military traffic due to intermittent Mujahideen attacks on military convoys in Kabul and Ghazni province (14 October 1987).

4 — PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE THEMES

Radio Kabul

Given below are the major Kabul Radio themes in October 1987 in descending order of recurrence:—

1. Alleged foreign intervention in Afghanistan by US, Pakistan, Iran and China etc.
2. Highlighting Kabul's plan of national reconciliation and its achievements.
3. Allegations against Pakistan government like "its direct or indirect involvement in the undeclared war in Afghanistan".
4. Attacks on the personality of Pakistan's President Zia.
5. Highlighting Afghan-Soviet Friendship and cooperation.

Radio Moscow

Given below are the major Moscow media themes in October 1987 in descending order of recurrence:—

1. Highlighting Kabul's national reconciliation plan and its contribution in restoring peace in Afghanistan.
2. Condemning foreign intervention in Afghanistan especially on the part of Pakistan, US, Western countries etc.
3. Criticising Pakistan ambitions to acquire nuclear weapons and US military aid.
4. Projection to Soviet Afghan ties in social and cultural fields etc.
5. Highlighting Afghan development and progress particularly in industry and agriculture.

over the past week. Several convoys also returned to Kabul bringing troops whom the diplomats described as battle weary. Guerilla sources in Peshawar confirmed that over the past ten days, there has been heavy fighting in many parts of Logar including Surkhab, Dobandi, Mohammad Agha and Barki Bark. They say that about 70 civilians and guerillas have been killed in aerial bombing attacks and artillery bombardments. Several hundred houses are also reported to have been flattened. A village, only a few miles from the provincial capital Pul-e-Alam, is said to have been almost completely destroyed. The guerillas claimed to have inflicted heavy casualties on Soviet and Afghan troops and to have destroyed a number of tanks and three aircraft since the fighting began.

Radio Kabul: A group of the extremists who disturbed peaceful life of our people in Mohammad Agha Wolesswali in Logar province was wiped out by the Armed Forces. During the Armed Forces operation which took place at the instructions of the National Reconciliation Commission upon the request of the local people, 36 extremists were arrested alongwith different kinds of weapons including 289 rockets (News Pushto: 24 October 1987).

Wardak

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen attacked Soviet-Kabul military establishments and troops in Maidan Shehr, headquarters of Wardak province, with rockets on September 20. Several buildings suffered damage and an unspecified number of Soviet-Kabul troops and regime supporters were killed and wounded. A wireless station at Doraha Tangi and an ammunition depot were also hit.

On October 8, Mujahideen attacked a Soviet convoy near Saidabad town on Kabul-Qandahar road. A tank and two jeeps were destroyed by rocket fire after which the convoy pulled back to Maidan Shehr.

VIRA: The Mujahideen attacked a military post of the Soviet-Kabul troops near Wardak Maidan last week. As a result heavy losses in men and material were inflicted on the Soviet-Kabul troops and the military post was captured by the Mujahideen (7 October 1987).

VOA: Western diplomats say Mujahideen have physical control of Koteasro, (also called Maidan Shehr) the capital of Wardak province. They say as a result of the Mujahideen control of this city, the threat to Kabul-Qandahar highway has increased many-fold as it passes some eight kilometres in the south-east of this city. The Qandahar highway is still closed for non-military traffic due to intermittent Mujahideen attacks on military convoys in Kabul and Ghazni province (14 October 1987).

4 — PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE THEMES

Radio Kabul

Given below are the major Kabul Radio themes in October 1987 in descending order of recurrence:—

1. Alleged foreign intervention in Afghanistan by US, Pakistan, Iran and China etc.
2. Highlighting Kabul's plan of national reconciliation and its achievements.
3. Allegations against Pakistan government like "its direct or indirect involvement in the undeclared war in Afghanistan".
4. Attacks on the personality of Pakistan's President Zia.
5. Highlighting Afghan-Soviet Friendship and cooperation.

Radio Moscow

Given below are the major Moscow media themes in October 1987 in descending order of recurrence:—

1. Highlighting Kabul's national reconciliation plan and its contribution in restoring peace in Afghanistan.
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APPENDIX — 1

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN OCTOBER 1987 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Human Losses

Soviet Casualties	:	203 killed and	72 wounded
Kabul Casualties	:	574 killed and	136 wounded
Soviet-Kabul Casualties	:	326 killed and	161 wounded
Defections	:	136 Kabul troops defected and 93 captured	
Mujahideen Casualties	:	184 killed and	228 wounded
Afghan Civilian Casualties	:	346 killed and	45 wounded

Material Losses

Soviet-Kabul Material Losses:—

Aircrafts	8	LMGs	35	Security Posts	48
Helicopters	15	HMGs	20	Khad Offices	3
Tanks	66	Klashnikovs	285	Liquor stores	2
APCs	42			Barracks	3
HMV's	46	Rocket launchers	3	Airport installations	1
Trucks	20	Mortar	8	Concrete bunkers	10
Jeeps	5	Pistols	6	Military installations	6
Oil Tankers	12	Handgrenades	19	Wireless stations	1
Wireless Sets	19	Ammunition			
Shops	32	Depots	10		
Weapons of different kinds	101	Currency	40,000 Afghanis		

Mujahideen Material Losses:

Klashnikovs	8	
Rocket launcher	1	
	27	Vehicles transporting arms and ammunition to the front were bombarded by Russian aircraft in Shinkai district of Zabul province, as a result, the arms and ammunition were destroyed.



APPENDIX — 2

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN OCTOBER 1987 SOVIET-KABUL (RADIO KABUL) SOURCES

Returnees	11007	(Those availing amnesty, voluntarily surrendering, changing allegiance and joining Soviet-Kabul ranks).
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Human Losses:

Inflicted to counter-revolutionary (CR) elements:

Killed	5
Captured	146

Mujahideen Material Losses

	<i>Captured by security forces</i>	<i>Surrendered by returnees</i>
Rockets	299	—
Landmines	96	—
Rocket Launcher	17	50
Cannons	2	4
Doshka	1	16
Assorted weapons	77	1350
Shells	484	—
Klashnikovs	38	—
Mortars	3	8
Wireless sets	—	9
Vehicles	—	12
Horse	—	200
Rounds of ammunition	1,000	10,000
Surface-to-surface missiles	315	—
Quantities of arms/ ammunition	3	1

Loss inflicted by "CR" elements

Human losses:	Killed	29	Wounded	48
Material losses:	Houses	8		
	Shops	29		
	Vehicles	5		

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	Shops	29		
	Vehicles	5		

APPENDIX — 3

PROVINCEWISE ENGAGEMENTS IN OCTOBER 1987 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Total Engagements	Provincial Capital	Engagements	
			Inside City	Vicinity of City
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	2	Zaranj	—	—
Hilmand	3	Lashkargarh	1	—
Qandahar	24	Qandahar	8	6
Zabul	6	Kalat Gilzai	—	—
Ghazni	20	Ghazni	5	3
Paktika	3	Sharna	—	—
Paktiya	38	Gardez	—	—
Ningarhar	26	Jalalabad	—	—
Kunar	19	Chagha Sarai	—	—
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	2	Faizabad	—	1
Takhar	5	Taloqan	1	2
Kunduz	15	Kunduz	—	—
Baghlan	9	Baghlan	—	—
Samangan	—	Samangan	—	—
Balkh	8	Mazar Sharif	1	—
Jozjan	4	Sheberghan	—	1
Faryab	5	Maimana	1	—
Badghis	—	Qala Nau	—	—
Bordering Iran				
Herat	12	Herat	1	1
Farah	4	Farah	—	—
(Nimruz)	—	(Zaranj)	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	Bamiyan	—	—
Ghor	4	Chaghcharan	—	—
Uruzgan	3	Tarin Kot	3	—
Kabul & Adjacent Provinces				
Kabul	36	Kabul	10	4
Parwan	11	Charikar	—	—
Kapisa	13	Mahmud-i-Raqi	—	—
Laghman	9	Mehtarlam	—	—
Logar	64	Pule Alam	—	—
Wardak	5	Koteasro	2	1
TOTAL	350		25	19

APPENDIX — 4

MUJAHIDEEN MOBILE & IMMOBILE TARGETS AND SOVIET-KABUL OPERATIONS IN OCTOBER 1987 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Mujahideen Targets		Soviet-Kabul Operations		Total
	Mobile	Immobile	Air	Ground	
Bordering Pakistan					
Nimruz	—	2	—	—	2
Hilmand	1	1	—	1	3
Qandahar	6	10	3	5	24
Zabul	2	1	3	—	6
Ghazni	8	6	5	1	20
Paktika	3	—	—	—	3
Paktiya	19	11	8	—	38
Ningarhar	1	22	3	—	26
Kunar	2	9	6	2	19
Bordering USSR					
Badakhshan	—	1	—	1	2
Takhar	2	1	2	—	5
Kunduz	3	6	4	2	15
Baghlan	6	3	—	—	9
Samangan	—	—	—	—	—
Balkh	4	4	—	—	8
Jozjan	2	—	—	2	4
Faryab	1	1	3	—	5
Badghis	—	—	—	—	—
Bordering Iran					
Herat	2	8	1	1	12
Farah	—	4	—	—	4
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—	—
Central Afghanistan					
Bamiyan	—	—	—	—	—
Ghor	—	1	3	—	4
Uruzgan	—	3	—	—	3
Kabul & Adjacent Provinces					
Kabul	7	20	8	1	36
Parwan	9	2	—	—	11
Kapisa	8	5	—	—	13
Laghman	2	5	1	1	9
Logar	10	10	35	9	64
Wardak	1	3	1	—	5
TOTAL:	99	139	86	26	350

APPENDIX — 3

PROVINCEWISE ENGAGEMENTS IN OCTOBER 1987 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

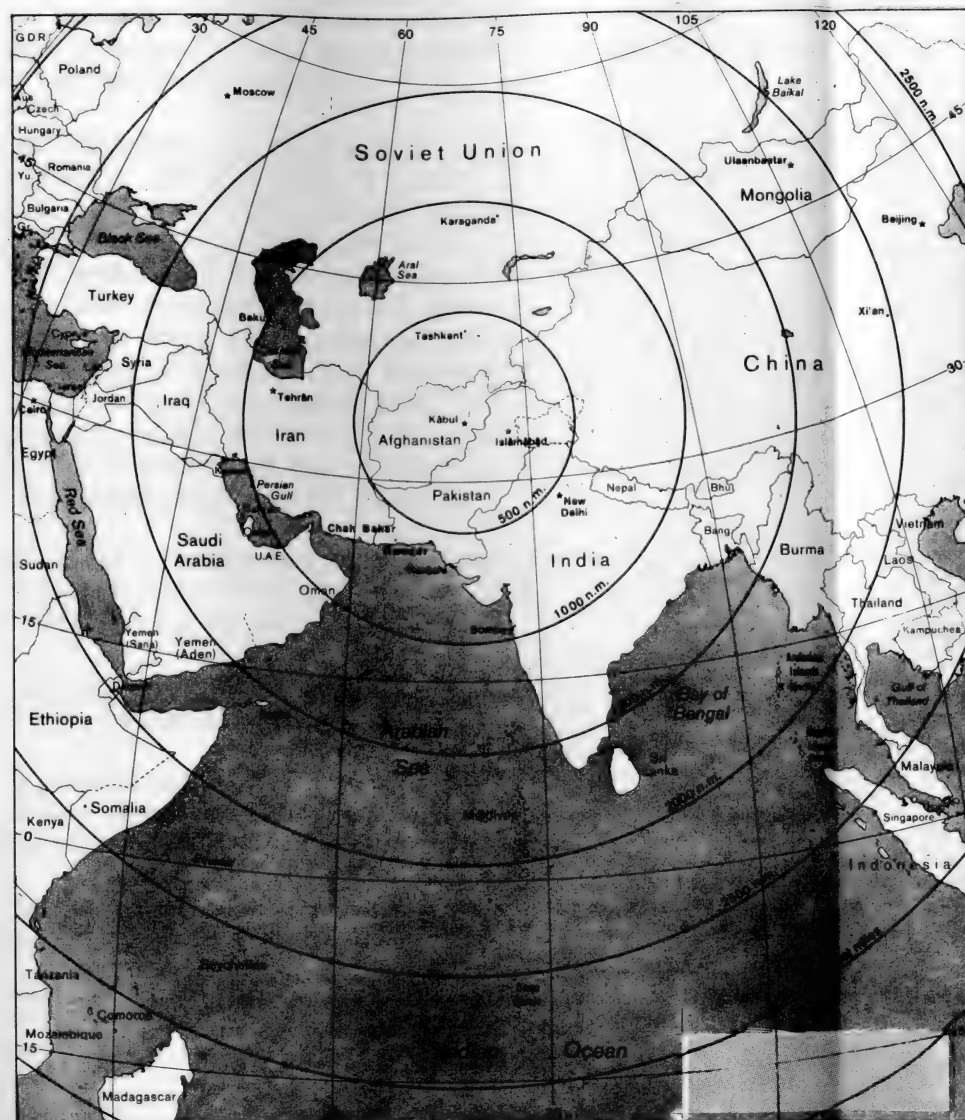
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Ghazni	20	Ghazni	5	3
Paktika	3	Sharna	—	—
Paktiya	38	Gardez	—	—
Ningarhar	26	Jalalabad	—	—
Kunar	19	Chagha Sarai	—	—
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	2	Faizabad	—	1
Takhar	5	Taloqan	1	2
Kunduz	15	Kunduz	—	—
Baghlan	9	Baghlan	—	—
Samangan	—	Samangan	—	—
Balkh	8	Mazar Sharif	1	—
Jozjan	4	Sheberghan	—	1
Faryab	5	Maimana	1	—
Badghis	—	Qala Nau	—	—
Bordering Iran				
Herat	12	Herat	1	1
Farah	4	Farah	—	—
(Nimruz)	—	(Zaranj)	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	Bamiyan	—	—
Ghor	4	Chaghcharan	—	—
Uruzgan	3	Tarin Kot	3	—
Kabul & Adjacent Provinces				
Kabul	36	Kabul	10	4
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Samangan	—	—	—	—	—
Balkh	4	4	—	—	8
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Faryab	1	1	3	—	5
Badghis	—	—	—	—	—
Bordering Iran					
Herat	2	8	1	1	12
Farah	—	4	—	—	4
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—	—
Central Afghanistan					
Bamiyan	—	—	—	—	—
Ghor	—	1	3	—	4
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Kabul & Adjacent Provinces					
Kabul	7	20	8	1	36
Parwan	9	2	—	—	11
Kapisa	8	5	—	—	13
Laghman	2	5	1	1	9
Logar	10	10	35	9	64
Wardak	1	3	1	—	5
TOTAL:	99	139	86	26	350

APPENDIX — VI A



APPENDIX — VI B



Mujahideen sources: Conflict reported during October 1987 in 26 Provinces. Provinces from where no war report received: Samangan, Badghis and Bamiyan.

Radio Kabul: Conflict reported during October 1987 in 8 Provinces. These Provinces are: Ningarhar, Badakhshan, Kunduz, Herat, Kabul, Parwan, Laghman and Logar.

NOTES

The monthly Afghanistan Report is a carefully researched document for the benefit of scholars and policy-makers. Its aim is to present an objective analysis of the Afghan resistance, and the Soviet-Kabul military and psychological warfare.

The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Soviet Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Information Centre, Afghan News, HIA despatches and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are conscious of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up among the Mujahideen.

Figures of casualties and material losses given in Section 3 are in only those few cases where such inclusions were necessary for proper appreciation of the given events.

Losses reported in "Soviet-Kabul" category are often physically not verifiable by the Mujahideen and therefore mostly speculative.

The reports received and reported are subject to the process of verification, whenever possible, which may include interviewing with those most directly informed on the events.

Dates given in parenthesis in the chapter "Province-wise Survey Analysis" are of the actual broadcast.

Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (VOIR).

PERIOD COVERED

Facts and figures given in this study are based on reports mostly received during October 1-31, 1987. Appendices 1-7 also incorporate September 1987 incidents reported in October 1987.

II.— THE POLITICO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

1 — FOREIGN VISITS AND AGREEMENTS

Messages

Messages on various occasions were sent to, received from and exchanged with the following countries: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, Costa Rica, DPRK, GDR, India, Mongolia, Pakistan, USSR, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Zambia and UNO.

Czechoslovakia

The 50th anniversary of signing of friendship treaty between Afghanistan and Czechoslovakia was marked on October 22 in Kabul. Czechoslovak delegation led by Ehren Berger, Minister of Energy and Fuel which was on a visit to Kabul met with Najib and with a number of DRA Ministers and exchanged views on the extension of mutual economic and cultural cooperation between DRA and the CSSR (*KNT*, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27 October).

Hungary

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of concluding of the friendship treaty between Afghanistan and Hungary the Hungarian Ambassador to the DRA, highlighted the main features of cooperation between the two countries. He said that we appreciate the struggle of the people of Afghanistan for building a new and blossoming society and fully support the policy of NR (*KNT*, 8 October).

Romania

Najmuddin Kawiani, alternate member of Politburo of the PDPA CC, met with Nicolae Ceacescu, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania. Matters of mutual interest were discussed at the meeting. Protocol on extension of relations between the PDPA and the Communist Party of Romania, was also signed in Bucharest (*KNT*, 1 October).

U.N.O.

Abdul Wakil Minister of Foreign Affairs of the DRA, met on September 30 with Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN Secretary General in New York. The DRA Minister also met with Diego Cordovez Assistant Secretary General of the UN. Matters of mutual interest including

political settlement of the Afghan issue and recent developments in this regard were discussed in the meetings (*KNT*, 3 October).

U.S.S.R.

Protocols on project planning and techno-economic survey for the construction of a reservoir on Logar River and rehabilitation of irrigation establishments of Balkh river were signed on September 30, by the DRA and Soviet Officials in Kabul. According to the protocol Soviet construction equipment and vehicles etc will be supplied to the Ministry of Irrigation of the DRA (*KNT*, 1 October).

An eight day space flight of a Soviet-Afghan crew is scheduled for the first half of 1989. This has been announced in the 'Glavkosmos' the Soviet Administration for the development and use of space engineering for economy and research. A protocol on a joint expedition on board the Soviet orbital station MIR was signed in Moscow on September 30, 1987. The study of Afghanistan's natural resources from space was one of the leading topics among the Soviet and DRA officials (*KNT*, 4 October).

A high level delegation of the Supreme National Reconciliation Commission led by President of the National Front Abdur Rahim Hatif visited Soviet Union on the invitation of the Soviet Solidarity Committee with the Afro-Asian countries. During its stay in the USSR the delegation met with high government officials and signed a protocol of cooperation with the Soviet Solidarity Committee (Radio Kabul, 4 October).

The Afghan Defence Minister, General Mohammad Rafi met his Soviet counterpart in Moscow on October 6 and discussed with him matters of mutual interest (Radio Kabul, 7 October).

UNESCO

An Afghan delegation headed by Faqir Mohammad Yaqubi chairman of the UNESCO National Commission of the DRA, participated in the 24th session of the UNESCO General Conference in Paris (Radio Kuwait, 1 October).

2 — POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

A periodic session of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA was held on September 30 in Kabul. The session dealt with organisational issues, heard a report of the RC presidium on its work of the period between March-September 1987 and approved the decrees endorsed since the last RC session. The session unanimously elected Najib as the

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President of the RC and the President of the Presidium of the RC of the DRA. Haji Mohammad Samkani was elected the first Vice President of the Presidium of the RC.

Najib in his speech before the periodic session of the RC said that the post of President of the RC of the DRA involves extraordinary task, bearing great responsibility. All roots of people's power are linked to the RC and its Presidium. All urgent issues of the country ranging from the endorsement of Laws to endorsement of state's budget and plans, determination of fundamental aspects of domestic and foreign policy and endorsement of programmes of activities of the government are worked out and settled through this organ. Thus I know how a great responsibility with regard to people's destiny lies before me (*KNT*, 1, 3 October).

The Second National Conference

The second national conference of the PDPA on the policy of NR, was inaugurated on October 18, 1987. The inaugural session of the conference was attended by Najib, members of the politburo and secretariat of the PDPA CC and 677 delegates representing party committees and organisations from all over the country (*KNT*, 19 October).

Below are some parts of the text of Dr. Najib's report presented to the second national party conference:

On Policy of National Reconciliation

"We should define in this conference, the context of the Policy of National Reconciliation in its second phase. What issues in our view should be included in this Programme?

- Completion of the formation of the left wing democratic alliance and the formulation and organization of the mechanism of cooperation with various parties.
- Formulation of the state and coalition organs of administration.
- Filling the posts proposed by us to the other side.
- Precise observance of cease-fire till January 15, 1988.
- Approval of the constitution of the country and the issue of the name of the state.
- Election of the President and National Assembly.
- Preparation for the convocation of the 2nd congress of the party and marking the 10th anniversary of the April revolution.
- Taking measures for the propagation of the contents of the documents of the National Party Conference for materializing its impact on the broad masses of people and party members.
- Rendering assistance for the immediate return of refugees to

the country.

- Despatching messages on the outcome of the conference to the fraternal parties and friendly countries and the intensification of propaganda abroad.
- For the realization of this programme its necessary to make utmost utilization of the entire forces and instruments of the party and state. The process of NR should be accelerated in all directions."

On Factionalism in the PDPA

"Comrades, now we speak about unity. During the long period overt and covert factional struggles which has destroyed the oneness of the ranks of the party and breached party discipline, existed. Factionalism and groupism in the PDPA stem from inadequate perception of revolutionary and scientific theory by members of the PDPA and above all by the leading cadres. In addition to factionalism and groupism, from the very days of the establishment of the party there was also the heat of a hard struggle for power among separate groups and leaders of these groups who could not give up the habits of groupism and cliques. It should be declared most courageously and forcefully that if the PDPA could not attain this aim the party will lose its leading role in the society and will be driven out of the political system."

On Afghan Military Structure

"Most of the issues related to military structure and strengthening of the combat capability of our armed forces have not yet been solved. All our units and detachments at present are not capable enough to independently and successfully resist the enemy. In the opinion of the headquarters of the Supreme Command of the armed forces and our military authorities, following are the reasons for the low combat ability of a significant part of military units and detachments:—

- Low level of completion of the combat units and detachments, especially in the army, which has resulted in low level of proper usage of weapons and combat techniques by soldiers and non-commissioned officers.
- Lack of serious and precise mobilisation of the combat units and detachments.
- Weak theoretical and practical preparedness.
- Slow rate of activity of political organs, party and youth organizations in the armed forces for boosting the militancy of the army.

These defects have created obstacles to the cause of strengthening

President of the RC and the President of the Presidium of the RC of the DRA. Haji Mohammad Samkani was elected the first Vice President of the Presidium of the RC.

Najib in his speech before the periodic session of the RC said that the post of President of the RC of the DRA involves extraordinary task, bearing great responsibility. All roots of people's power are linked to the RC and its Presidium. All urgent issues of the country ranging from the endorsement of Laws to endorsement of state's budget and plans, determination of fundamental aspects of domestic and foreign policy and endorsement of programmes of activities of the government are worked out and settled through this organ. Thus I know how a great responsibility with regard to people's destiny lies before me (*KNT*, 1, 3 October).

The Second National Conference

The second national conference of the PDPA on the policy of NR, was inaugurated on October 18, 1987. The inaugural session of the conference was attended by Najib, members of the politburo and secretariat of the PDPA CC and 677 delegates representing party committees and organisations from all over the country (*KNT*, 19 October).

Below are some parts of the text of Dr. Najib's report presented to the second national party conference:

On Policy of National Reconciliation

"We should define in this conference, the context of the Policy of National Reconciliation in its second phase. What issues in our view should be included in this Programme?

- Completion of the formation of the left wing democratic alliance and the formulation and organization of the mechanism of cooperation with various parties.
- Formulation of the state and coalition organs of administration.
- Filling the posts proposed by us to the other side.
- Precise observance of cease-fire till January 15, 1988.
- Approval of the constitution of the country and the issue of the name of the state.
- Election of the President and National Assembly.
- Preparation for the convocation of the 2nd congress of the party and marking the 10th anniversary of the April revolution.
- Taking measures for the propagation of the contents of the documents of the National Party Conference for materializing its impact on the broad masses of people and party members.
- Rendering assistance for the immediate return of refugees to

the country.

- Despatching messages on the outcome of the conference to the fraternal parties and friendly countries and the intensification of propaganda abroad.
- For the realization of this programme its necessary to make utmost utilization of the entire forces and instruments of the party and state. The process of NR should be accelerated in all directions."

On Factionalism in the PDPA

"Comrades, now we speak about unity. During the long period overt and covert factional struggles which has destroyed the oneness of the ranks of the party and breached party discipline, existed. Factionalism and groupism in the PDPA stem from inadequate perception of revolutionary and scientific theory by members of the PDPA and above all by the leading cadres. In addition to factionalism and groupism, from the very days of the establishment of the party there was also the heat of a hard struggle for power among separate groups and leaders of these groups who could not give up the habits of groupism and cliques. It should be declared most courageously and forcefully that if the PDPA could not attain this aim the party will lose its leading role in the society and will be driven out of the political system."

On Afghan Military Structure

"Most of the issues related to military structure and strengthening of the combat capability of our armed forces have not yet been solved. All our units and detachments at present are not capable enough to independently and successfully resist the enemy. In the opinion of the headquarters of the Supreme Command of the armed forces and our military authorities, following are the reasons for the low combat ability of a significant part of military units and detachments:—

- Low level of completion of the combat units and detachments, especially in the army, which has resulted in low level of proper usage of weapons and combat techniques by soldiers and non-commissioned officers.
- Lack of serious and precise mobilisation of the combat units and detachments.
- Weak theoretical and practical preparedness.
- Slow rate of activity of political organs, party and youth organizations in the armed forces for boosting the militancy of the army.

These defects have created obstacles to the cause of strengthening

the armed forces and do not give the opportunity to achieve the necessary superiority over the enemy. The essential question is conscription and conscription again.

We often call our party the militant party, while only 60 per cent of the militant party members are in the armed forces and the other 40 per cent including the employees of the party and state organs, even do not have ordinary military readiness and do not know the weapons. In one word, every professional organization of the party and the youth organization should turn into a combat group. Military detachments of the party will be formed in districts, cities and provinces and the secretaries of the concerned party committee will guide them. I order the general staff comrade Shahnawaz Tani to prepare in one month's time the programme for a universal military education system for the members of the party and youth organizations" (*KNT*, 20, 21 October).

On Achievements of NR

"1600 villages have peacefully come directly under the rule of the revolutionary government after the proclamation of the NRP. Farah and Nimroz provinces have been cleared of the counter-revolutionaries. Over 90 thousand refugees have returned to their homeland from Iran and Pakistan. While 184 armed groups comprising of thirty thousand members have joined the revolutionary government. First phase of the NR has been completed with significant results and the second phase is in progress" (Radio Kabul, 31 October).

Presidium of RC

The presidium of the Afghan RC has approved a bill on the activities and convocation of Loi Jirga. It is to convene in Kabul in November and December and is to endorse the Republic's new constitution and elect a president (Radio Moscow, 31 October).

In pursuance of the policy of national reconciliation, the presidium of the RC of the DRA, has endorsed a decree, provides for the purchase of arms and ammunition by the government from those who have ceased the senseless war, hostility and fratricide. The decree of the RC presidium reads thus:

1. The forces under the Ministries of Defence, Interior and State Security in the capital and provinces are empowered to purchase against fixed price all kinds of arms.
2. In case the former armed groups and individuals want to sell their arms secretly the aforementioned organs are authorized to deal with them secretly.
3. The Council of Ministers of the DRA should allocate necessary

funds, to the armed forces for this purpose (*KNT*, 12 October).

Plenum of CC

The plenum of the central committee of the PDPA was held on October 17, 1987. The plenum discussed the issues pertaining to the second national party conference on the policy of NR and assessed organizational issues. The plenum unanimously elected Mohammad Daud Razmir, Hakim Mangal, Rio Hammadullah Safi, Sarferaz Momand, Sher Bahadur, Abdul Hamid Mohtat, Abdul Habib, Sayed Nasratullah, Mohammad Wali and Hashmatullah Kalhani as full members of the PDPA CC and Hussain Hellali, Abdul Kabir Ranibar and Abdul Rahim as alternate members of the PDPA CC. The plenum promoted Najmuddin Kawiani and Niaz Mohammad Momand alternate members to full members of the politburo of the PDPA CC. The plenum unanimously upgraded Haider Masoud Secretary of the PDPA CC to full member of the politburo of the PDPA CC. It also elected Shahnawaz Tanai, Chief of Staff of the army as alternate member of the politburo (*KNT*, 18 October).

Wakil's Address to UNGA

While addressing the UN General Assembly the Afghan Foreign Minister, Abdul Wakil said that the achievements made since the declaration of reconciliation policy in Afghanistan despite many differences, considerable closeness has been created in the stands of Pakistan and the DRA. The Foreign Minister of the DRA made an appeal to all the Afghans who live in foreign countries to come back to their homeland. He said law regarding political parties has been approved and the opposition have been offered to form a coalition with the ruling party. He claimed that eighty thousand Afghan refugees have returned to their homeland following the policy of NR and about 300 armed groups have joined the peoples government. He further said that the US was increasing arms supplies to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries and has decided to increase the aid to one billion dollars (Radio Moscow, 1 October).

Afghan Resistance

Eight parties of Afghan Mujahideen comprising United Front of Islamic Revolution, Pasdaran-e-Jehad, Harkat-e-Islami Afghanistan Hizbullah, Afghanistan Islamic Military Organization, Afghanistan Hizb-e-Dawat, Afghanistan Islamic Movement and Afghanistan Nasar Organization in a joint statement have reiterated to continue their struggle against the puppet government of Afghanistan and the Soviet

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troops. In a statement on October 25 the Council of Islamic Revolution while referring to the guidances of Ayatullah-Al-Uzma Muntazari, said that the past few years experiences proved that there is no unity and harmony among the Muslims of Afghanistan and lack of strength would weaken them. The statement appeals the Afghans to use all their possible resources and manpower against the Soviet troops (Radio Tehran, 25 October).

Seven Party Alliance has announced formally that it has elected Maulvi Younus Khalis as its Chairman for a term of one and a half year. The statement said that Maulvi Khalis has unanimously been chosen as 'Raees' of the alliance. But his chairmanship will continue till elections for the Majlis-e-Shoora. A commission will be set up to hold elections to this Majlis-e-Shoora within 18 months, Maulvi Younus Khalis has said that as chairman of the Alliance, his task will be to establish government of Mujahideen in Afghanistan following return of Soviet forces from there. He further said that as chairman he has power to unite and bring all military fronts of the Mujahideen under one flag (Radio BBC, 22 October).

Problems of NRP

The Soviet Communist Party paper PRAVDA has reviewed the difficulties being faced by the Kabul government in implementation of the NRP. The paper has admitted that no headway has been made in this regard, and the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries are also opposing it. The method of implementation of the Reconciliation programme has caused differences and rift in the ruling party (Radio Tehran, 29 October).

3 — ECONOMY

Afghanistan's Prime Minister Sultan Ali Keshtmand has said that the Afghan economy has been steadily developing despite the undeclared war waged against his country by international and foreign reactionary forces. Sultan Ali Keshtmand while speaking at the second Party Conference, said that Afghanistan's Gross National Product last year was 18% higher than in 1982 and the national income in that period has grown by 10% (Radio Moscow, 19 October).

Projects

Soviet economic, scientific and cultural cooperation have played vital role in the evolution of Afghan Society. 130 projects in Afghanistan have been completed and one hundred more projects are under

completion. The war has caused a total damage of 60 billion Afghanis to Afghan economy. Socialist countries assistance to Afghanistan constitutes 90 per cent of the total foreign assistance whereas the Soviet assistance alone is 80 per cent (Radio Kabul, 1 October).

Work on setting up five projects to be financed from the 50 million Rouble credit of the Soviet Union to private entrepreneurs in DRA is going apace. The protocols for setting up 171 projects in the private sector have been concluded. The projects will have 60 per cent share of the entrepreneurs and 40 per cent of the chambers of commerce. Work on Bakhtar bicycle assembly plant and four Bakeries is already in progress (KNT, 6 October).

A bakery and flour mill will be built with Soviet aid in Kunduz city. The protocol on setting up this project to be financed from 50 million Rouble credit of the Soviet Union has been signed by the DRA and the USSR (KNT, 24 October).

Power and Energy

A power station was inaugurated on October 2, in Qala-i-Zaman Khan by Raz Mohammad Pakteen, Minister of Power of the DRA. The station supplies power to 400 houses in the area. The power station cost 3 million Afghanis and was completed in record period before actual time (KNT, 3 October).

A protocol on the delivery of equipment for drilling wells for natural gas in the north of Afghanistan was signed on October 5, by Afghan and Soviet representatives in Kabul (KNT, 6 October).

Kabul city petroleum enterprise, whose aim is to provide facilities to the citizens in supply of oil, gas and coal in winter is to supply 215,140 tons of diesel, 22,143 tons of Kerosene, 66,000 tons of petrol, 200 tons of condensed gas, and 40,000 tons of coal in different parts of Kabul city this year (KNT, 3 October).

Communications

Telegraph and telex links have been established between Kabul and Frankfurt through shamsad earth satellite, intersputnik and international satellite telecommunication systems. Telephone links have recently been extended between Kabul-Paris, Kabul-London and Kabul-Moscow. The construction of the buildings of an automatic telephone exchange in Gardez city and Ghazni province is almost completed and installation work will start soon (KNT, 10 October).

Space Programme

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An exhibition of light and electric industries of Bulgaria will be opened on October 24 in the chaman permanent exhibition ground Kabul. The exhibition will remain open till November 4, (KNT, 24 October).

Agriculture

Contracts on technical and economic ground works of bonstruction of Gat Water reservoir dam across the Logar river and rehabilitation of irrigating system of Hazhdah Nahr (Canal) on the Balkh river have recently been signed in Kabul between the DRA and the Soviet Union. The construction of Gat Water reservoir will provide more drinking water to Kabul city, with the rehabilitation project of Hazhdah Canal 313,000 hectares of land would be irrigated (KNT, 14 October).

Engineer Ghulam Farouq Kobakiwal, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reforms, accompanied by the Indian Ambassador to the DRA inaugurated the second project of improved seeds and seedlings on October 12, in Badam Bagh of Kabul city (KNT, 13 October).

Nine hundred and fifty-nine tons of fertilizer costing 8 million Afghanis were distributed by Afghan Fertilizer and Agricultural Services Company to the members of cooperatives and peasants of Helmand province. Pesticides costing 526,000 Afghanis were also distributed to the peasants and cattle breeders of the province (KNT, 6 October).

4 — EDUCATION, YOUTH AND HEALTH

Education

A workshop on using cheap instruments in chemistry was inaugurated on October 5, in Kabul University. The workshop is held under the supervision of the regional representative of UNESCO. M. Derkatch, head of the regional office of Science and Technology of UNESCO in Delhi also attended the workshop and exchanged views on cooperation with the DRA officials (KNT, 7 October).

To hail the second national conference of the Party the founda-

tion stone of technical education training centre No. 18 was laid in Pul-e-Charkhi area by Sultan Ali Keshtmand, Chairman of the Council of Ministers. The centre is being built at a cost of 3.2 million Roubles with Soviet assistance and 150 million Afghanis from the government development budget (KNT, 19 October).

On one hand, the Afghan Mujahideen are continuing their struggle against Soviet and Afghan government troops while on the other hand they are working on a unique programme of reconstruction. The Head of the International Affairs Department of Nebraska University, Professor Thomas Gotyre (ph) says that the university and the Mujahideen in collaboration with the US International Development Agency have opened more than six hundred primary schools. He said that eighty per cent of Afghanistan is controlled by Mujahideen, while the rest twenty per cent is under the control of the Soviet backed Kabul regime. Dr. Gotyre said that a team consisting of representatives from university of Nebraska and seven party Afghan Mujahideen Alliance, is jointly implementing the programme of opening primary schools within Afghanistan. He described the unit based in Pakistan city of Peshawar, as the exiled Afghan Ministry of Education. Schools have been opened in every province in Afghanistan may exceed even one thousand by the end of 1987, he added (VOA, 8 October).

A protocol on Soviet Free Bilateral Cooperation was signed between the Afghan Higher and Professional Education Ministry and Soviet Embassy's Economic Consulate. Under the protocol Soviet Union will provide equipment for professional education to Afghanistan (Radio Kabul, 10 October).

30 young people of Kunduz province left on October 3, for studies in Farghan Taiba through Shikran port under the protocol on direct cooperation between Kunduz and Farghan Taiba of Soviet Tajikistan (KNT, 4 October).

Youth

The Central Committee of the DYOA has issued a message calling upon the youth of Afghanistan to join hands and rush courageously for restoration of work, life and reconstruction of Qandahar. It is for over nine years that Qandahar has burnt in the imperialist undeclared war. The message further says that we invite you to join the construction brigades and fulfil your share of labour and energy (KNT, 11 October).

According to some western diplomats in Islamabad, groups of government agents, wandering in the streets, forcibly taking the youth with them and making them military recruits. According to Afghan law, age for conscription has been fixed at 18 years or more, but recent

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reports reveal that a number of boys of 17 years have also fallen prey to these official agents. Confirm reports say that a number of military trucks are parked around the city which take the boys to garrisons. On October 23, government authorities and officials of national secret police visited schools in Kabul and sent boys to recruiting centres directly after selecting them from classes. Reports also said that most of the youth were immediately provided with arms and uniform and sent to war fronts, without any military training. The fronts included Qandahar, Logar and Herat (VOA, 29 October).

Health

The foundation stone of the extension project of Orthopaedic Ward of Wazir Akbar Khan hospital was laid by Sher Bahadur, Minister of Public Health. The project will cost over 2,087,000 Afghanis and will be completed in four months time (KNT, 14 October).

Relief goods consisting of stationary, teaching material, medicines and medical equipment gifted by the delegation from Samarkant Uzbek SSR were handed over to the authorities of the education and public health departments of Baghlan province (KNT, 7 October).

5 — SOCIAL AND CULTURE

Social

The Afghan Red Crescent Society have visited villages and distributed medicines and relief goods worth of 126.47 million Afghanis to families of martyrs of the revolution and other needy people. With the help of the International Committee of Red Cross, the Afghan maternity clinic of Rahman Mina have signed a protocol with Bulgaria on construction of 200 bed maternity hospital and a hospital for the handicapped (KNT, 22 October).

A delegation of the Women's Council of Samangan province left on October 23 for Tashkent on the invitation of the Women's Committee of Tashkent. The delegation includes five women from martyr's families, workers of friendship club, teachers and leading functionaries of the provincial women's council (KNT, 24 October).

Najib received the members of the central council of the Union of Craftsmen of the DRA in Kabul on October 1, 1987. He congratulated the craftsmen on the convocation of the first congress of craftsmen and said that convening of the first congress and formation of the Central Council of the Union of Craftsmen is certainly of great political significance in the life of our country. The share of craftsmen, like that other countrymen is outstanding in the complete realization of this process.

The Deputy Chairman of the Central Council of Craftsmen thanked Najib and pledged to spare no effort for establishing peace in the country and pay heed to the significance of the economic growth in the process of realization of the policy (KNT, 4 October).

The first session of the presidium of Afghan-Japanese Friendship Association was held on October 4 in Kabul. The session endorsed a working plan valid upto March 21, 1988 for further strengthening friendship between the people of Afghanistan and the people of Japan (Radio Kabul, 6 October).

To welcome the second national conference of the PDPA 108 apartments were distributed on October 2, to the disabled and martyr's families in the 16 block of the third Microrayon (KNT, 3 October).

The Presidium of Afghan-Iraqi Friendship Association met on September 30 in Kabul, under the Chairmanship of Burhan Ghiasi, Minister of Higher and Vocational Education. The meeting reviewed the work of the association and adopted a plan for improvement of its activities. Burhan Khalil Ghazal, Iraqi Ambassador was also present on the occasion (KNT, 1 October).

Culture

On the eve of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution an exhibition depicting the progress achieved by the Uzbek SSR in the field of medicine and prevention of diseases, opened on October 14 in Kabul in the House of Soviet Sciences and Culture (KNT, 15 October).

A photo and handicraft exhibition of Hungary was opened in the hall of the executive committee of the council of peoples deputies on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the friendship treaty between Afghanistan and Hungary. The three day exhibition is organized by the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization and Afghan-Hungarian Friendship Association (KNT, 12 October).

On the eve of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and in support of the policy of NR in the DRA, a cultural function was organised by the State Committee for Culture in Kabul. The Soviet representative delivered a speech on national reconciliation in Afghanistan and the effect of Great October Revolution on the liberated people the world over (KNT, 12 October).

Religion

Afghan pilgrims who had gone to perform pilgrimage at Karbala in Iraq, returned home on October 5, 1987. Using state assistance, a large number of citizens had gone to Karbala this year (KNT, 6 October).

reports reveal that a number of boys of 17 years have also fallen prey to these official agents. Confirm reports say that a number of military trucks are parked around the city which take the boys to garrisons. On October 23, government authorities and officials of national secret police visited schools in Kabul and sent boys to recruiting centres directly after selecting them from classes. Reports also said that most of the youth were immediately provided with arms and uniform and sent to war fronts, without any military training. The fronts included Qandahar, Logar and Herat (VOA, 29 October).

Health

The foundation stone of the extension project of Orthopaedic Ward of Wazir Akbar Khan hospital was laid by Sher Bahadur, Minister of Public Health. The project will cost over 2,087,000 Afghanis and will be completed in four months time (KNT, 14 October).

Relief goods consisting of stationary, teaching material, medicines and medical equipment gifted by the delegation from Samarkant Uzbek SSR were handed over to the authorities of the education and public health departments of Baghlan province (KNT, 7 October).

5 — SOCIAL AND CULTURE

Social

The Afghan Red Crescent Society have visited villages and distributed medicines and relief goods worth of 126.47 million Afghanis to families of martyrs of the revolution and other needy people. With the help of the International Committee of Red Cross, the Afghan maternity clinic of Rahman Mina have signed a protocol with Bulgaria on construction of 200 bed maternity hospital and a hospital for the handicapped (KNT, 22 October).

A delegation of the Women's Council of Samangan province left on October 23 for Tashkent on the invitation of the Women's Committee of Tashkent. The delegation includes five women from martyr's families, workers of friendship club, teachers and leading functionaries of the provincial women's council (KNT, 24 October).

Najib received the members of the central council of the Union of Craftsmen of the DRA in Kabul on October 1, 1987. He congratulated the craftsmen on the convocation of the first congress of craftsmen and said that convening of the first congress and formation of the Central Council of the Union of Craftsmen is certainly of great political significance in the life of our country. The share of craftsmen, like that other countrymen is outstanding in the complete realization of this process.

The Deputy Chairman of the Central Council of Craftsmen thanked Najib and pledged to spare no effort for establishing peace in the country and pay heed to the significance of the economic growth in the process of realization of the policy (KNT, 4 October).

The first session of the presidium of Afghan-Japanese Friendship Association was held on October 4 in Kabul. The session endorsed a working plan valid upto March 21, 1988 for further strengthening friendship between the people of Afghanistan and the people of Japan (Radio Kabul, 6 October).

To welcome the second national conference of the PDPA 108 apartments were distributed on October 2, to the disabled and martyr's families in the 16 block of the third Microrayon (KNT, 3 October).

The Presidium of Afghan-Iraqi Friendship Association met on September 30 in Kabul, under the Chairmanship of Burhan Ghiasi, Minister of Higher and Vocational Education. The meeting reviewed the work of the association and adopted a plan for improvement of its activities. Burhan Khalil Ghazal, Iraqi Ambassador was also present on the occasion (KNT, 1 October).

Culture

On the eve of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution an exhibition depicting the progress achieved by the Uzbek SSR in the field of medicine and prevention of diseases, opened on October 14 in Kabul in the House of Soviet Sciences and Culture (KNT, 15 October).

A photo and handicraft exhibition of Hungary was opened in the hall of the executive committee of the council of peoples deputies on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the friendship treaty between Afghanistan and Hungary. The three day exhibition is organized by the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization and Afghan-Hungarian Friendship Association (KNT, 12 October).

On the eve of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and in support of the policy of NR in the DRA, a cultural function was organised by the State Committee for Culture in Kabul. The Soviet representative delivered a speech on national reconciliation in Afghanistan and the effect of Great October Revolution on the liberated people the world over (KNT, 12 October).

Religion

Afghan pilgrims who had gone to perform pilgrimage at Karbala in Iraq, returned home on October 5, 1987. Using state assistance, a large number of citizens had gone to Karbala this year (KNT, 6 October).

6 — NATIONALITIES POLICY

According to some government sources in Kabul, 25 tribal Jirgas were held with the participation of more than 5,000 elders, chieftains and representatives of tribes in Herat province. Peace Jirgas of Peasants, workers, Ulema, Clergymen and representatives of armed persons who have joined the NR process were held in 130 villages of Kabul province. Concrete pledges were made in these Jirgas for ensuring peace and security (*KNT*, 13 October).

Sulaiman Laeq Minister of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs met on October 5, with a number of elders and chieftains of Paktia province. He also attended a tribal Jirga of nomadic tribes of Mosa Khel and Jallal Khel, held at Gardez in Paktia province. The nomadic elders and chieftains expressed their readiness for the implementation of the NR policy. Besides, Laeq attended the political seminar of the party and state employees of the armed forces of Paktia province (*KNT*, 6-8 October).

Najib received on October 7 elders and chieftains of Parwan, Kapisa, Bamiyan, Ghazni, Wardak and Kabul provinces in Kabul. The elders and chieftains congratulated Najib on his election as the President of the Revolutionary Council. Najib thanked the representatives and assured them of every possible support of his government and party. He asked the elders to work for a durable peace in Afghanistan (*KNT*, 8 October).

Najib received on October 4, members of the central council of Hazara Nationality. Members of Hazara council extended their heartiest congratulations to Najib on his election as president of the RC presidium and assured their support in the complete implementation of the NR policy. Acknowledging their sentiments Najib said that with the cooperation, unity and solidarity of all fraternal nationalities of Afghanistan, our hardships and problems are being tackled one by one and peace will prevail in Afghanistan (*KNT*, 5 October).

Sulaiman Laeq Minister of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs attended Jirga of elders and chieftains of 14 tribes of Gardez city, centre of Paktia province, on October 8. The tribal elders pledged their support and assured the government of every possible support (*KNT*, 11 October).

Messages on Najib's Election

Messages hailing the election of Najib as president of the RC and RC Presidium have been received from, the Jirga of Social figures of Nooristan, chieftains and elders of various tribes of Kunar province,

elders of seven Jaji tribes of Paktia province and many others.

Peace Zone

Farah province was declared a peace zone in a grand jirga held on October 8. Saleh Mohammad Zeary member of politburo, Ministers, high officials and nearly 7,000 representatives of Farah province attended the jirga. Zeary read out the message of the PDPA CC, RC and Council of Ministers of the DRA. The resolution of the jirga firmly supported the policy of NR and the measures adopted by the government under the leadership of comrade Najib (*KNT*, 11 October).

Moscow Radio correspondent has reported that Herat province has been declared a peace zone. Peaceful life has been restored in two hundred villages of the province. The NR Commission includes nearly nine hundred former opponents of Afghan government (Moscow Radio 14 October).

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